

INSIDE: THE ROYAL LOVE STORY – 30-PAGE PULLOUT

The Sunday Telegraph

SUNDAY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Reunited in sorrow



Brothers and their wives greet public in Windsor as the Prince of Wales pays tribute to beloved ‘Grannie’

By Hannah Furness ROYAL EDITOR

THE Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex were reunited in sorrow alongside their wives last night, setting aside their differences to meet well-wishers in Windsor and honour their grandmother Queen Elizabeth II.

The quartet came together to pay their respects to the late Queen, who Prince William said had been with them in their “happiest moments and saddest days”.

The Prince had extended the hand of friendship to his younger brother, inviting the Duke and Duchess of Sussex to join him on a walkabout in Windsor to share their memories with the public.

It was the first public appearance for the new Prince and Princess of Wales, since they were announced in the title by the King in his first address to the nation less than 24 hours earlier.

The four, who have rarely been seen together, stepped out on the Long Walk at Windsor Castle, in the first sign of a healing of the rift that has opened since the Sussexes left the working Royal family in January 2020.

A source said that the Prince of Wales

believed the gesture was “an important show of unity at an incredibly difficult time for the family”.

Moments earlier, the Prince had issued a statement in tribute to his “Grannie”, whom he called an “extraordinary leader and Queen”, who had offered his family “wisdom, reassurance, guidance and support”.

“I thank her on behalf of my generation for providing an example of service and dignity in public life that was from a different age,” he said.

The appearance by the Waleses and the Sussexes came at the end of a day in which the King was officially proclaimed monarch, in a ceremony at St James’s Palace imbued with ancient ritual and broadcast on television for the first time.

The Queen Consort and the Prince of Wales had joined privy counsellors, including six former prime ministers, at the Accession Council.

His Majesty was proclaimed as King Charles III with the sound of trumpets, before spending the day holding audiences with the Prime Minister and Cabinet, opposition parties and the Dean of Westminster.

At the end of the day, the King left Buckingham Palace and got out of his car on The Mall to speak to well-wishers on Stable Yard.

Shouts of “God save the King” were heard along with a chorus of the

I thank her on behalf of my generation for providing an example of service and dignity in public life that was from a different age

national anthem. It was also announced that Queen Elizabeth’s state funeral would take place at Westminster Abbey, at 11am on Monday Sept 19, which will be a bank holiday.

Buckingham Palace confirmed that the public would be invited to pay their respects over the course of nine days, with members of the Royal family to walk in processions and hold vigils to honour the late monarch.

The Queen’s oak coffin has been lying in the Ballroom at Balmoral Castle and will be taken on a slow, six-hour journey by road to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh today.

From there, it will be taken to St Giles’ Cathedral, in the Scottish capital, where it will remain until Tuesday before being flown to London.

The Queen’s body will lie in state for four days at Westminster Hall from Wednesday, allowing for a continuous stream of members of the public who wish to pay their respects.

From tomorrow, the King will begin his journey to the home nations to receive condolences, attending services of reflection in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and delivering speeches at each.

The Government is expecting “extremely large crowds in central London” during the period of mourning, with one of the largest crowd control operations in British history so that “as many people as possible are able to

pay their respects”. The King will lead mourning, with the Queen Consort by his side throughout.

Members of the Royal family will walk behind the coffin and hold vigils, but Buckingham Palace has not yet confirmed who will attend each event.

The Prince of Wales, speaking as a grieving grandson, yesterday encapsulated what Queen Elizabeth had meant to his own generation.

“The world lost an extraordinary leader, whose commitment to the country, the Realms and the Commonwealth was absolute,” he said. “So much will be said in the days ahead about the meaning of her historic reign.”

“I, however, have lost a grandmother. And while I will grieve her loss, I also feel incredibly grateful.”

“I have had the benefit of the Queen’s wisdom and reassurance into my fifth decade.

“My wife has had 20 years of her guidance and support.

“My three children have got to spend holidays with her and create memories that will last their whole lives.”

Describing her personal influence, he added: “She was by my side at my happiest moments. And she was by my side during the saddest days of my life.”

“I knew this day would come, but it will be some time before the reality of life without Grannie will truly feel real.”

Shortly after issuing the written tribute, the Prince and Princess appeared

The Prince and Princess of Wales are joined by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex on the Long Walk at Windsor Castle

outside Windsor Castle, joined by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

The couples have had a strained relationship, with a rift between the brothers that many feared would never heal after a series of allegations about the Royal family by the Sussexes.

The Prince is understood to have extended the invitation to the Sussexes to join him shortly before the walkabout, surprising thousands of well-wishers who had turned out to lay flowers in memory of the Queen.

The quartet, all wearing mourning clothes, spent about 45 minutes greeting people of all ages, accepting bouquets to lay on the growing pile of tributes and thanking the public for their kindness.

“My grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love,” said William. “All of the sadness we will feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen.”

“I will honour her memory by supporting my father, the King, in every way I can.”

Queen Elizabeth said the Sussexes remained “much-loved members of the family” after they left the working Royal family. The Duke and Duchess are now considering how to bring their children to the UK.

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William extends olive branch – and establishes himself as Firm’s senior statesman

Camilla Tominey
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As the world watched, Prince opted for show of unity at ‘incredibly difficult time for family’

Queen Elizabeth II famously said that it was “often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change”.

In the end, all it took was several steps up Windsor’s historic Long Walk for the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sussex to finally put their differences aside.

Accompanied by their wives, the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex, yesterday’s surprise reunion of the so-called “Fab Four” provided us with one of the most remarkable walkabouts in modern royal history.

They say monarchy packs a soft power punch – but this was a knockout PR blow intended to stop 10 days of national mourning being overshadowed by tales of the rift between the brothers.

Seemingly mindful of the optics of Harry flying to Balmoral alone, after Meghan had initially been said to be joining him, only to remain at home at the last minute, it was William who took the decision to change the narrative.

As the quartet emerged together from a blacked-out car, driven by the heir to the throne, a source confirmed: “The Prince of Wales invited the Duke and Duchess to join him and the Princess of Wales earlier.”

“The Prince of Wales thought it was an important show of unity at an incredibly difficult time for the family.”

And what a show of unity it was – with both couples spending 40 minutes meeting members of the public who had waited hours to see William and Kate, only to end up with a “BOGOF” deal with Harry and Meghan thrown in for free.

Might William also have been mindful of his father’s poignant King’s speech on Friday, when he described the late Queen as someone with “an unerring ability always to see the best in people?”

Clearly sensing that this was not a time for recrimination but reconciliation, it was as if the 40-year-old father of three was trying to reflect his elevated status as the King’s new ‘liege man of life and limb’.

This was not just a display of older brotherly love – but a statement of his elevation to the House of Windsor’s second most senior statesman.

Yesterday was supposed to be about the Accession Council ceremony that officially proclaimed Charles III as King.

But in offering an olive branch to Harry – despite all that was said and done on *Oprah Winfrey* – William created his very own, ‘cometh the hour, cometh the man’ moment.

Anyone worried that Queen Elizabeth’s successors might not be able to equal her duty-first approach could breathe a sigh of relief.

As the extraordinary scenes played out in the shadow of Windsor Castle, where both couples now have homes just a stone’s throw apart, observers could be forgiven for wondering whether the band was back together for good – or simply for one night only?

Although they arrived and departed together in a friendly enough manner

(oh, to have been a fly on the wall in the back of that Audi), there was not much conversation between the couples, who at times looked a little tense as the TV cameras captured their every move.

As ever, their contrasting styles were plain to see as touchy-feely Harry and Meghan held hands, while William and Kate adopted a more businesslike approach; highlighting once again the stark difference between a future king and queen and a couple prone to oversharing on podcasts.

And while the joint appearance will undoubtedly begin a healing process for the once-inseparable siblings, there is no denying that the road to peace is not without its potential potholes.

First there is the small matter of Harry’s forthcoming tell-all autobiography, due to be published in the coming months without the royals’ prior approval.

Will Harry still stick to the pre-Christmas timetable for the “definitive account” of his “experiences, adventures, losses, and life lessons” to hit the book shelves?

And what are the family to make of Meghan’s thinly veiled threat, in a 6,500-word interview with *The Cut* earlier this month, that she is free to launch yet more salvos against her in-laws?

Having spoken of her relief at being “able to tell [my] own story”, she warned: “I’ve never had to sign anything that restricts me from talking. I can talk about my whole experience and make a choice not to.”

Sources close to the Sussexes insist that they are keen to follow protocol this week, with the focus remaining firmly on remembering Queen Elizabeth in line with their restrained behaviour during the Platinum Jubilee.

Meghan, 41, has already delayed the next episode of her *Archetypes* Spotify show as well as cancelling a planned appearance on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, a popular primetime US chat show.

The couple are no longer going to attend the UN General Assembly, which is due to open on Tuesday, as planned.

Having decided to remain in the UK until the state funeral a week tomorrow, they are trying to work out whether Meghan’s mother Doria should fly out with their children Archie, three, and one-year-old Lilibet, having spent more than a week apart.

It is not yet clear whether their children will use the prince and princess titles they are now entitled to.

It is also to be confirmed what precise role the Sussexes will play in the Royal procession that will follow Queen Elizabeth’s coffin on foot at various points over the coming days.

After releasing further details of the funeral arrangements yesterday, palace officials refused to be drawn on which members of the Royal family would play a significant role – and whether a distinction would be drawn between “working” and “non-working” royals as was the case during the four-day Platinum Jubilee weekend in June.

In William’s tribute to his grandmother, he spoke of an “extraordinary leader” whose wisdom and experience had proved a guiding light.

In reaching out to Harry, the future king has demonstrated a determination to live life by Grannie’s magnanimous example.



JAMEL GORMAN FOR THE TELEGRAPH/ANDREW COULDRIDGE/PAUL CHILDS/ PETER NICHOLLS/REUTERS

Today’s Sunday Telegraph

There is no Sunday supplement in today’s paper and Puzzles are in a separate eight-page pullout. Business and Sport can be found together in one eight-page section.

Stepping out shoulder to shoulder, it

The sight of Prince William making his way down the Long Walk alongside his brother felt like the last two years never happened

By **Henry Bodkin** and **Hannah Furness**

IT STARTED as a murmur among the children on their parents’ shoulders – the only way of seeing what was going on, so deep was the crowd on the Long Walk, Windsor.

“I see Harry, I see Harry.” Then, “And Meghan!” The parents didn’t believe them. Harry had appeared to leave his family members as fast as possible on Friday, after all, and Meghan was *persona non grata*.

But then, there they all were, as if the

last two years had never happened. Under a threatening storm cloud that never broke, the Royal foursome walked shoulder to shoulder through the gates of Windsor Castle, past a tide of flowers and notes of condolence to greet the throng of well-wishers.

Side by side, as if they had never been apart, they accepted flowers, cuddly toys and an endless stream of well wishes, comforting the public just as they tried to console them.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and Duke and Duchess of Sussex put on such a show of unity, it was as if they

had never been away. The Princess of Wales later said to a family that “at times like this you’ve got to come together”.

There is only one woman who could have brought it about: their grandmother, the Queen, who the Royal family say tried to see the best in everyone, and never lost sight of her “much-loved” family across the pond.

Over the course of minutes, the couples made their way down a line shaking hundreds of hands, splitting up to cover more ground than swapping sides in the well-practiced routine of the royal walkabout.

A royal source said: “The Prince of Wales invited the Duke and Duchess to join him and the Princess of Wales earlier.”

The Prince of Wales cooed over the chubby cheeks of a baby, the Duke of Sussex told a woman the Queen was his

‘It was so beautiful to see. I felt the Queen would have loved it. I just hope in the future they remain like that and that the brothers come together’

“hero”. The Princess of Wales, who politely accepted a stream of gushing compliments about her new title, said she was “going to blush”, and the Duchess of Sussex offered her most heartfelt of hugs to excited young women.

Even the Wales children seemed present, with the Princess sharing the wise words of her youngest son Prince Louis with waiting children.

“Louis said at least Grannie is with Great Grandpa now,” she said.

Banita Ranow, 28, among the crowd on the Long Walk, said the Princess of Wales was “welling up” as she spoke to the children.

The well-wisher from West London also spoke of her surprise at seeing the two brothers and their wives together, adding: “It was really nice.”

Her mother Baljinder Ranow, 64, said it was “fabulous”, adding: “It was so

beautiful to see. I felt so emotional and I felt the Queen would have loved it.

“I just hope in the future they remain like that and that the brothers come together, and the families.”

The last time the Prince and Duke viewed flowers together was at the 20th anniversary of the death of their mother, where they stepped outside their then home at Kensington Palace.

Before that, the sight of them viewing tributes to their mother, at the ages of 15 and 12, will be forever etched on the public’s memory. Yesterday was an altogether different matter.

With the support of their wives, the brothers smiled and waved through their sorrow, appearing grateful to share the experience of grief with the public too.

While it is usual for royals who have been given flowers or a gift by a mem-

The Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex come together once again to meet the public at Windsor Castle, above right. Left, from top: the Duchess of Sussex greets a baby; the Princess of Wales meets wellwishers; Prince William stretches to meet a fan in the crowd



was as if they had never been apart

'Life without Grannie' Prince of Wales's tribute to the Queen

The Prince of Wales said: "So much will be said in the days ahead about the meaning of her historic reign. "I, however, have lost a grandmother. And while I will grieve her loss, I also feel incredibly grateful. I have had the benefit of The Queen's wisdom and reassurance into

my fifth decade. "My wife has had 20 years of her guidance and support. My three children have got to spend holidays with her and create memories. "She was by my side at my happiest moments. And she was by my side during the saddest days of my life. I knew this day would come, but it will

be some time before the reality of life without Grannie will truly feel real. "I thank her for the kindness she showed my family and me. And I thank her on behalf of my generation for providing an example of service and dignity in public life that was from a different age, but always

relevant to us all. My grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love. All of the sadness we will feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen. "I will honour her memory by supporting my father, the King, in every way I can."

I said it was lovely to see both of the boys together. Kate replied "at times like this you've got to come together", which I thought was really nice'

ber of the public to an aide standing near them, at one point Meghan appeared to hold on to one of the many bouquets she was handed, in what appeared to be touching tribute to the well-wisher who had brought it. Such was the abundance of flowers, that by the end of the 40-minute visit they were spilling out of aides arms. In scenes that had until then seemed impossible, all made conversation as they walked, making the effort to point out particularly moving written notes and stand-out tributes. As they departed, the Prince offered his brother and sister-in-law a lift, driving up the Long Walk to their nearby homes on the Windsor Estate. The atmosphere was louder and more jolly than among those who gathered on Friday at Buckingham Palace to greet the new King.

Scott and Penny Dunn, who live locally, were some of the many hundred who turned out to cheer the couples as they accepted flowers and words of condolence and support from the public. Mrs Dunn, 42, told *The Sunday Telegraph*: "They asked our daughters what flowers they bought, we brought roses because the Queen was very special. "I said it was lovely to see both of the boys together. She [The Princess] said 'at times like this you've got to come together', which I thought was really nice. It's nice to see them together." The couple, along with their daughters Olivia and Ruby, 13 and 10, had just intended to lay some flowers at the Castle while walking their cockapoo, Freddy, but got caught up in the melee of the royal walkabout. Mr Dunn, 46, said: "It was a real privilege.

It's amazing of them to give so much time to people who care for their family. It was a real privilege'

"It's amazing of them to give so much time to people who care for their family." Mrs Dunn added: "We're local, so the Queen's always been a big part of our lives really. "We can see the castle from my dad's house, so we've always grown up with it. "I think everyone's felt a massive sense of loss. Olivia has been in tears for the last three days constantly. You can't stop her crying." Stuart and Sarah Patrick had cycled to Windsor from near Egham to see the princes, with their children Elliot, Keron and Lilee. The Prince of Wales shook everyone in the family's hand. "It was once in a lifetime, phenomenal - I've never seen or done anything like it before," said Mr Patrick.

Nation shares the moment for first time at request of the King

Sovereign proclaimed before prime ministers and archbishops – and every home in the country

By **Victoria Ward**
ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

KING CHARLES was yesterday proclaimed the nation's new monarch at a solemn ceremony broadcast live for the first time.

The King, 73, paid tribute to Queen Elizabeth II's reign "unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devotion" in the red-carpeted splendour of the picture gallery at St James's Palace.

At the personal request of the King, the historic meeting of the Accession Council, a ceremony rooted in antiquity, was filmed by two television cameras. The first part of the Privy Council meeting was witnessed by a crowd of some 200 parliamentarians past and present, including all six living former prime ministers.

In 1952, when the young Princess Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen, this gathering would have comprised only men in uniform or morning dress.

Yesterday, the array of faces reflected a notably different society, entirely in formal black dresses or suits.

David Cameron, dressed in a navy suit, stood out in a sea of black.

Among them were former party leaders Sir Nick Clegg and Ed Miliband, Mark Drakeford, the Welsh first minister, and several members of the Cabinet, including James Cleverly, Anne-Marie Trevelyan and Ben Wallace.

Also present was former archbishop of Canterbury Lord Carey, whose leadership of the Church of England spanned the difficult time of the King's divorce from Diana, Princess of Wales.

A brief hush fell over the room as Sir Tony Blair arrived, leading the pack of former prime ministers – Gordon Brown, Boris Johnson, David Cameron, Theresa May and Sir John Major – before the chatter rose up again.

The Privy Council dates back to Anglo-Saxon times. Once an advisory body for the monarch, today its role is largely symbolic.

For the King, whose first few hours as monarch have included a royal walkabout and a televised address to the nation, it was a nod to the layers of constitution in which the monarchy is rooted.

At 10am, Simon Case, Cabinet Secretary, urged those present to ensure mobile phones were switched off and an expectant silence fell. The platform party then duly filed slowly in, stepping on to the low red dais.

They included the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, Penny Mordaunt, the acting Lord President of the Council, Brandon Lewis, the Lord Chancellor, and Liz Truss, the Prime Minister.

Behind them were the black-clad Queen Consort and the new Prince of Wales, accompanied by a small group of Royal household staff.

In position, the Prince allowed himself a brief glance around the room, taking in the moment before turning to listen to Ms Mordaunt as she announced that Queen Elizabeth II had died.

"My lords, it is my sad duty to inform you that her most gracious majesty, Queen Elizabeth the second, has passed away on Thursday the 8th of September 2022 at Balmoral Castle," she said.

Ms Mordaunt then invited the clerk of the council, Richard Tilbrook, to read the proclamation to the packed gallery.

"We proclaim that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the death of our late sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and happy liege lord," he said.

"Charles III, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of his other realms and territory, King, head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all faith

and obedience with humble affection, beseeching God by whom kings and queens do reign to bless his majesty with long and happy years to reign."

He ended by saying, "God Save the King." The room dutifully echoed in unison: "God Save the King."

The Prince of Wales then stepped forward to sign the declaration. He was followed by the Queen Consort, who slowly signed her name with care.

Other members of the party followed suit, including a hesitant Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, who briefly appeared unsure where to sign.

Ms Mordaunt went on to list eight orders of council, ensuring that the proclamation would be published and circulated nationwide and guns would be fired at Hyde Park and at the Tower of London.

Those assembled then filed out of the room. The second part of the Accession Council took place a few minutes later in the Throne Room, and the Privy Counsellors eligible to take part duly filed in below the coved ceiling embellished with block gilt plasterwork.

On the dais before them, the throne still bore the Queen's "ER" cypher. A new one currently being designed will read "CR", Charles Rex. They were joined by the King for the first time, who began with a personal declaration.

The Sovereign, in formal black attire with a white waistcoat, stepped forward and unfolded his notes before declaring it his "sorrowful duty" to announce the death of his "beloved mother".

He spoke of an "irreparable loss" as he paid tribute to the late Queen's selfless service and acknowledged the "heavy task" before him to follow her example. The King said: "My mother's reign was unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devotion. Even as we grieve, we give thanks for this most faithful life."

"I am deeply aware of this great inheritance and of the duties and heavy responsibilities of Sovereignty, which have now passed to me. In taking up these responsibilities, I shall strive to follow the inspiring example I have been set in upholding constitutional Government and to seek the peace, harmony and prosperity of the peoples of these islands and of the Commonwealth Realms and Territories throughout the world."

The King said he was "profoundly encouraged by the constant support of my beloved wife". He then held aloft a blue Bible as he took the oath to preserve the Church of Scotland, necessary owing to the division between church and state in Scotland.

He then signed two copies of a declaration confirming the oath had been taken using an ink pot that was a gift from his sons, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sussex.

He produced a pen from his jacket pocket to do the honours, carefully dipping it into the pot of ink before signing the first document with a flourish.

The moment also enabled the King to practise a new signature: "Charles R", rather than just "Charles". He also wore a small royal pin on his tie, bearing the initials "CR", standing for Charles Rex.

When he stood, he appeared to clip the ink pot with his hand but it did not spill. The moment prompted a brief glance between King and Queen as he returned to his position.

Another pen was then passed back to the Prince of Wales to enable both him and the Queen to sign the documents.

As Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's First Minister, added her signature, the Band of the Coldstream Guards could be heard playing outside.

David White, Garter King of Arms, later read the proclamation from a balcony at St James's Palace as cheers of "God save the King" rang out.

Church first on agenda King's Scottish oath

The King has affirmed the independence of the Church of Scotland from government as one of his first acts.

King Charles III made an oath "relating to the security of the Church of Scotland".

It is necessary because the division of powers between church and state takes different forms in England and in Scotland.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has two established churches, the Anglican Church of England and the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

While Church of England Measures (or laws) require parliamentary oversight, the Church of Scotland is entirely self-governing.

The oath was witnessed by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Secretary of State for Scotland Alister Jack.

A separate oath regarding the Church of England will be given before Parliament.

Making history Senior figures in attendance at the proclamation

Penny Mordaunt, Lord President of the Council: This additional role for the Leader of the House of Commons meant she played a central role in the ceremony.

Prince William, Prince of Wales: He was the first to sign the proclamation making his father the new King, signing the seals

"William P. Camilla, the Queen: She followed Prince William in putting her signature on the proclamation document.

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury **The Most Rev Stephen Cottrell**, Archbishop of York **Brandon Lewis**, Lord Chancellor **Lord True**, Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal **Lord Carrington**, Lord Great Chamberlain **Edward Fitzalan-**

Howard, the Duke of Norfolk and Earl Marshal **Sir Tony Blair**, Labour prime minister 1997-2007 **Gordon Brown**, Labour prime minister 2007-2010 **Boris Johnson**, Conservative prime minister 2019-2022 **David Cameron**, Conservative prime minister 2010-2015

2010-2016 Theresa May, Conservative prime minister 2016-2019 **Sir John Major**, Conservative prime minister 1990-1997 **Sir Keir Starmer**, Labour Party leader **Lord Kinnock**, Labour Party leader 1983-1992 **Ed Miliband**, Labour Party leader 2010-2015



VICTORIA JONES/ISTOCK/GETTY IMAGES



King Charles III signs an oath to uphold the security of the Church in Scotland during the Accession Council at St James's Palace, above; Richard Tilbrook, Clerk of the Privy Council, reads the proclamation, left; Sir Keir Starmer, the Labour leader, and former prime ministers Sir Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, Boris Johnson, David Cameron, Theresa May and Sir John Major, right; Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the House, signs the Proclamation of Accession alongside Dr John Sentamu, the former Archbishop of York, far right



Proclamation of King Charles III at the Accession Council



Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to his mercy our late sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth II of blessed and glorious memory, by whose decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George. We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm, and members of the House of Commons, together with other members of her late Majesty's privy council, and representatives of the realms and territories, aldermen and citizens of London and others, do now hereby with one voice and consent of tongue and heart publish and proclaim that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the death of our late sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and rightful liege lord. Charles III, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of his other realms and territories, King, head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all faith and obedience with humble affection, beseeching God by whom kings and queens do reign, to bless His Majesty with long happy years to reign over us. God save the King.

Flying the flags Full mast until 1pm today, then half mast

The Union flag and all other flags were raised to full mast between 9am and 10.30am for the Proclamation, and will remain at full mast until 1pm today, when they are returned to half mast.

It is the only exception to half-masting during this period of mourning.

Official guidance states that they should remain at half mast until 8am on the day following the late Queen's funeral.

When Queen Elizabeth II's death was announced on Sept 8, all official flags were lowered to half mast as a mark of respect.

Half mast means the flag is flown a third of the way down the flagpole from the top, with at least the height of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the pole.



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Onlookers film The King's Guard as they give three cheers at St James's Palace, main; the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery fire a salute in Hyde Park, far left; David White, the Garter King of Arms, reads the proclamation of the new King, left; the accession ceremony to proclaim the new monarch, right; musicians sound their horns as the ceremony gets underway, far right

Ancient and modern go hand in hand

The proclamation goes back 300 years. Here, pageantry and technology combined to create a momentous piece of history

By Victoria Ward
ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS the moment that ancient royal tradition joined hands with the very modern.

As the proclamation of King Charles III's accession was made from a balcony at St James's Palace, it was recorded by a sea of mobile phones.

The burst of pageantry was an echo of times past, when the nation had no

other option but to take to the streets to hear the news.

The juxtaposition of old and new was befitting for a King whose reign will usher in a new era, a King determined to move with the times and reflect a less deferential 21st-century society.

After King Charles was formally declared Sovereign during a meeting of the Accession Council at St James's Palace, David White, the Garter King of Arms, prepared to make the principal

proclamation. Below, a crowd of around 1,000 members of the public stood together quietly waiting to watch history unfold before them.

Privy counsellors and representatives of the Princess Royal's Volunteer Corps and St John Ambulance congregated cheek by jowl.

Queen Elizabeth's grieving cousins, who served the late monarch throughout their lives, were also present beneath the arches of St James's Palace.

The Duke of Kent, 86, walked slowly but without an aid to sit on a red leather and wooden seat put out for him in the courtyard. He was joined by his brother, Prince Michael of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, and the Duke of Kent's daughter, Lady Helen Taylor.

Queen Elizabeth's grieving cousins, who served the late monarch throughout their lives, were also present beneath the arches

The Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke of Kent, sitting beside each other, discussed the scene before them. At one point, the Gloucesters stood with their arms interlinked.

The palace's detachment of The King's Guard made up of Number 7 Company, Coldstream Guards, had already formed up in Friary Court.

The King's Colour and the drums, carried by The King's Guard, and The King's Standard carried by The King's Life Guard at Horse Guards, were both "draped in black".

It was a masterclass in royal choreography, an event that has been replicated for every new sovereign for 300 years.

Silence fell as eight State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry filed out

under the grey skies and lifted their instruments. The arrival of the balcony party, which included the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, and other officers of arms, was announced by a fanfare.

A royal salute was then sounded as they stepped out into the warm September air.

Timing was of the utmost importance and the Earl Marshal – in charge of the accession proceedings and the funeral – checked his watch twice as they waited for the precise start time of 11am.

Right on cue, Mr White, resplendent in a red and gold velvet tabard, read out the 197-word proclamation declaring King Charles III the new monarch.

"We ... with one voice and consent of tongue and heart publish and proclaim

It was a masterclass in royal choreography, an event that has been replicated for every new sovereign for 300 years

Guards and garter The Principal Proclamation

The Principal Proclamation was made from the balcony in Friary Court at St James's Palace, London, by David White, the Garter King of Arms, accompanied by the Earl Marshal, other Officers of Arms and the Serjeants-at-Arms.

Also in the balcony party at St James's Palace were eight State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry, drawn from all ranks of The Band of The Household Cavalry.

All State Trumpeters join the Army as members of the Corps of Army Music and attend riding school before being selected for the role. They have to memorise up to 22 different fanfares.

In the courtyard below, the King's Guard paraded and removed their bearskins to give three cheers to the new sovereign. The guard was provided by Number 7 Company Coldstream Guards.

The Band of the Coldstream Guards also marched from Wellington Barracks to St James's Palace for the ceremony.

The King's proclamation was marked by the firing of two gun salutes, a Royal Salute of 41 Guns by King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery in Hyde Park and a Royal Salute of 62 Guns by the Honourable Artillery Company at the Tower of London.



at ceremony to usher in new era

that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, is now by the death of our late sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and happy liege lord, Charles III," he said.

He ended by saying: "Given at St James's Palace this 10th day of September in year of our Lord 2022."

His words were delivered without falter and – in another element to the scene not present in proclamations of the past – his voice carried by two fluffy boom microphones hidden out of sight behind the low, dark red brick balcony wall above the quadrangle.

The national anthem was performed by the Band of the Coldstream Guards.

The assembled King's Guard then put their rifles on the ground and returned

to a standing position. They were ordered to "remove head dress" as Mr White called for "three cheers for His Majesty the King".

The guards and crowds present in Friary Court, including the Duke of Kent, responded in kind, echoing his words, and the soldiers doffed their bearskins three times.

Members of the household staff appeared moved as cheers from the crowds on The Mall and shouts of "God Save the King" flooded into the courtyard, as the National Anthem was played, and those watching joined in.

The Duke of Kent raised his hand in the air for the two final cheers.

The balcony party returned inside to the palace through an opening created

The pane of glass was removed entirely – a scramble through a window unthinkable amid the carefully staged pomp

especially for the occasion by the removal of a 20ft high sash window.

The pane of glass was removed entirely on Friday to allow the Garter King of Arms and the Officers and Serjeants of Arms ease of access – a scramble through a window unthinkable amid the carefully staged pomp.

It was replaced with a temporary window – in case of poor weather and for protection – which was removed on Saturday as the scene was readied.

In the quadrangle, Sir Clive Alderton, the King's principal private secretary, clutching a series of documents, and Sir Edward Young, the late Queen's private secretary, were engrossed in conversation shortly before the public proclamation. Both have key roles in the days

ahead as Operation London Bridge – the formal plan for arrangements after the Queen's death – gets underway, although the King has yet to set out the details of royal court.

The Garter King of Arms confessed beforehand to being nervous at his "emotional" role.

"It's a great honour and something that we have been preparing for years. It's a rather emotional occasion," he said. Asked if he had any nerves, he replied: "I do."

His intricately decorated tabard, embroidered with gold thread, was thickly not heavy or hot, he disclosed. Given the ancient nature of the ceremony, it was also remarkably new, having been made just 10 years ago after

the previous one, which dated from 1838, became too frail to be used.

"Every garment has its working life," he said.

Angela Rayner, Labour's deputy leader, said attending the event was a "once-in-a-lifetime" and an "extraordinary" experience.

She noted how "people have travelled from all over the world" to witness the events marking the late Queen's death and the proclamation of the King. "People are very proud of our country and the Commonwealth, and what it means to us," she said.

Leaving the palace, Tom Tugendhat, the new security minister, took time to say hello to onlookers. Greeting a

'It has been a great honour and something that we have been preparing for years. It's a rather emotional occasion'

Continued on Page 8

Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022



Continued from Page 7
 mother who had brought her baby, he said to the child: “Did you say hi to your new King?”

Charlene Butler, the mother of one-year-old Erin Butler Martin, said she had come to the palace because “it’s a historical day” and “I wanted to be part of it”.

Her daughter being there would be “something for us to remember together,” she added.

She was delighted to catch a glimpse of King Charles’s motorcade leaving the palace a few minutes later, cheered on its way by the crowd.

Proclamations were later made outside the Royal Exchange in the heart of the City of London, where thousands gathered to witness the moment.

The second reading of the Accession Proclamation, performed by Timothy Duke, the Clarenceux King of Arms, was met with applause and cheers of “God save the King”.

The crowd then sang the national anthem followed by three cheers for King Charles, and the Coldstream Guards stood to attention as the proclamation was read out.

After the ceremony finished they marched away to the sound of a drumbeat.

The proclamation was historically made in the City to disseminate the message to the nation, allowing crowds to gather and hear the news. Images

The only notable difference between then and now is the expanding London skyline



from the same moment in 1952, when the young Princess Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen, show a remarkably similar scene.

Back then, huge numbers packed into the City, and hundreds more crowded onto nearby rooftops. Even the roof of the Bank of England was thronged with onlookers.

Today, health and safety regulations

would prevent spectators taking up such a precarious perch. The only other notable difference between then and now is the expanding London skyline.

Visually encapsulating one of the vast changes that Queen Elizabeth witnessed during her lifetime, towering glass skyscrapers now dominate the landscape.

In 1942, the news of the King’s death

came as a huge shock and the public was not prepared.

Times may have changed but thousands still lined the City streets yesterday to witness the pageantry, part of the fabric of British life.

In a statement, the Royal Exchange said: “It is the esteemed duty of the City of London to honour this tradition and ensure the areas around the route of the procession are secured so we can observe this profound moment in our country’s history with the greatest respect and compassion.”

Afterwards, Chrissie Ellis, 61, from north London, said it was “extraordinary” to see the Accession Proclamation read aloud.

“I feel very privileged to have seen it,” she said.

Ms Ellis said that singing the national anthem was the standout moment for her, although it was “really strange” to sing “King” instead of “Queen”.

“It’s just getting used to saying it,” she said.

“You’re so used to singing about the Queen. That’s what I’ve been brought up with and known all my life. It felt strange, but also momentous and historic.”

Emily White, 34, a Canadian, described witnessing the beginning of a new era.

“It was amazing, I got here at 11.59am, so I got here right as it just

‘There was an incredible feeling in the crowd. It was such a solemn moment’

started,” she said. “There was an incredible feeling in the crowd. It was such a solemn moment. You really felt that a next era was starting, it was exciting.”

Ms White said the public were “still adjusting” to singing *God Save the King*.

“I think everyone is still adjusting, but still it was an exciting moment, ready for the next generation to start,” she said.

Ms White also said that singing the national anthem had proven to be the standout moment for her.

“I watched the ceremony this morning at St James’s, but then hearing it said this morning – King Charles III – it was very moving.”

Town criers and musical bands are





In a scene mirroring the proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1952 (below left), hundreds of people assembled in the City of London, left, for the proclamation of King Charles III at the Royal Exchange yesterday, below

HEATHCLIFF O'NEALEY FOR THE TELEGRAPH; TOBY MEVILL/REUTERS

set to accompany proclamations in towns and cities throughout the United Kingdom. Today at noon, the proclamation will be read aloud at Edinburgh Castle, Cardiff Castle and Hillsborough Castle in Belfast.

Social media footage showed that in many towns they expected crowds to gather in the city as the Southend Band will offer musical support.

Lord mayors and high sheriffs in places such as Birmingham, Staffordshire and Leicester will be tasked with the job of reading the proclamation. Michael Kapur OBE, Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, said: "We are all grieving the Queen and the next few days will be a period of collective mourning."

"The reading of the proclamation is a significant moment following the Queen's death and I am expecting large numbers of people to want to witness this piece of history."

Roads are set to be closed at some proclamations, including in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London, and around the central library in Manchester today.

Meanwhile, gun salutes of 62 rounds were fired from saluting stations across the UK and elsewhere to mark the proc-

lamation. At London's Tower Bridge, there were shouts of "Long Live the King" as the rounds were fired by the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC).

At Park Lane, 41 rounds were fired by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. The HAC, in ceremonial dress, was seen driving in liveried Pinzgauer vehicles through the City of London past a thousands-strong crowd of onlookers.

They travelled with police escort to the Thames riverbank, where guns were positioned facing HMS Belfast.

At the Tower of London - which is both a royal palace and fortress - a royal salute comprises the traditional 21 rounds, another 21 rounds signifies the loyalty of the City of London to the Crown, and a final 20 rounds were fired.

Salutes were fired from Cardiff Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Hillsborough Castle, Gibraltar, Colchester, York, Larkhill near Stonehenge, naval bases in Devonport and Portsmouth and a number of stations at sea.

Among the Royal Navy ships available to fire rounds were HMS Montrose, in the United Arab Emirates, and HMS Lancaster, in Portugal.

Reservists from 206 Battery 105 Regiment Royal Artillery fired the salute at Hillsborough Castle in Co Down watched by Steve Baker, minister of state for Northern Ireland.

Mystery of monarchy changing with the times

Vernon Bogdanor



"The more democratic we get", so the great constitutional writer Walter Bagehot predicted in 1867, "the more we shall get to like state and show".

Yesterday's Accession Council confirms the prescience of that prediction. The Council was a once in a lifetime event. Only those well over 70 can remember the last one in 1952, when the late Queen came to the throne.

Yesterday's Council, however, was more colourful than its predecessor, which took place in bleak and sombre austerity Britain, still recovering from the war. Moreover, George VI's life had been cut short - he had died at the age of 56 - while the Queen lived a full life for 96 years.

The Accession Council was marked also by greater openness. The first to be televised, it enabled the whole country to participate vicariously. In 1952, it was not easy to persuade the authorities even to televise the

coronation, let alone the Council. The monarchy seemed shrouded in mystery. Now, we can expect, surely, a more visible monarchy reaching out to a wider swathe of the people.

Much of the ceremony was ancient if not archaic. Few can be familiar with the precise roles of Garter King of Arms or the Earl Marshal. Still, as the former Labour MP, Chris Mullin, ruefully confessed, "Whatever you think of our ruling class, they do a good line in State occasions". And so it proved.

The Council had two main functions. The first was to proclaim Charles III our rightful king. That of course was not constitutionally or legally required. The King succeeded immediately on the death of the Queen.

Constitutional monarchy has the advantage that the succession is seamless and there can be no dispute about who the head of state should be. In a presidential system, by contrast, the head of state is the product of election, which makes it more difficult for him to represent the whole country rather than just a section of it.

The second function was to allow the new King to make the statutory oath to preserve the established Church of Scotland as provided in the

1707 Treaty of Union, a church to which only a small minority of Scots belong. The King has no power to enforce or amend this provision and, were the Government, with the consent of the Scottish Parliament, to repeal it, the King would have to consent.

At the first state opening of parliament or the coronation, the Accession Declaration Act of 1910 requires the King to make a further statutory declaration that he is a

"Now, we can expect, surely, a more visible monarchy reaching out to a wider swathe of people"

"faithful Protestant" and will "secure the Protestant succession". At his coronation, the sovereign will promise, in virtue of the Coronation Oath Act of 1688, to maintain the established Church of England.

These statutory oaths derive from the constitutional struggles of the 17th century, and some will consider them anachronistic in a country in which, according to the British Social Attitudes Survey of 2014, 49 per cent

professed no religion and just 18 per cent were Anglicans. The oaths are irrelevant in Wales and Northern Ireland, which have no established church; irrelevant also in the other realms such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Jamaica, none of which has an established church. But it is for Parliament, not the sovereign, to alter the statutes, if it wishes to do so.

The new King has indicated that, in addition to becoming Defender of the Faith, he seeks to be a defender of faith itself. Securely confident in his own faith, he will welcome and protect the rights of other faiths, and indeed of those with no religion, as is of course appropriate for the sovereign of a multi-faith and pluralistic country.

In his tribute to his mother, Charles III spoke of her "abiding love of tradition, together with that fearless embrace of progress, which make us great as nations". The monarchy is an institution rooted in the distant past. But it survives only by adapting to the needs of the present. Few can be more aware of this than the new king. Vernon Bogdanor is Professor of Government at King's College London. His books include "The Monarchy and the Constitution"

Gamekeepers of Balmoral to see off their sovereign on final journey

The Queen’s coffin will make many stops before the state funeral to allow public to pay their last respects

By **Gordon Rayner** ASSOCIATE EDITOR

QUEEN ELIZABETH II will begin her final journey today when her coffin emerges from Balmoral Castle carried by six of the gamekeepers from her Scottish estate.

Buckingham Palace announced that Her Majesty’s state funeral will take place at 11am on Monday, Sept 19, but there will be many stops along the way as the public are given the chance to pay their own respects to “one of the defining figures of our times”.

Until now, Queen Elizabeth has lain in an oak coffin, covered by a royal standard and a floral wreath, in the ballroom at Balmoral Castle, where estate staff have been able to say goodbye in private after her death on Thursday.

It was described as “a scene of quiet dignity” by a senior royal official.

From Balmoral, the coffin will travel to Edinburgh, then for a lying in state in London and finally to Windsor, where Queen Elizabeth II will be interred next to her husband, Prince Philip, in a small family vault.

Details of the route the coffin will take, and where the public will be able to take part, were released by Buckingham Palace yesterday, with full details of the funeral service itself expected later in the week.

The Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, who by tradition presides over the arrangements for royal funerals, said: “Together with so many colleagues from within the Royal Household, the Armed Forces, the police and other institutions of church and state, we will carry out our duty with the heaviest of hearts.

“But also with the firmest of resolve to ensure a fitting farewell to one of the defining figures of our times; a monarch whom we were truly privileged to have as the Head of State of our country and realms.”

Referring to the King’s broadcast on Friday, in which His Majesty said “we owe her the most heartfelt debt”, the Earl Marshal added: “I think we can, in some way, repay that debt by carrying out her last wishes in delivering Her Majesty the Queen’s funeral.”

Sunday, Sept 11

At 10am, six gamekeepers from the Balmoral estate will carry Her Majesty’s coffin from the ballroom through a small dining room to the entrance, where it will be placed in a hearse for a slow six-hour drive to Edinburgh.

It will be the first time the public will have seen the Queen’s coffin.

Accompanied by the Earl of Dalhousie and the minister of Crathie Church, the hearse will make its way via Aberdeen, Dundee and Perth to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official royal residence in Scotland, where it will be placed in the Throne Room by a bearer party found by The Royal Regiment of Scotland. It will remain there overnight, enabling members of staff at Holyroodhouse to pay their last respects.

Monday, Sept 12

The King and Queen will travel to Edinburgh from London to join the procession that will take the coffin from Holyroodhouse to St Giles’ Cathedral on the Royal Mile.

The hearse will set off at 2.35pm, flanked by a military bearer party, while the King and other members of the Royal family follow on foot. Queen Camilla and other members of the Royal family will follow in cars.

When the coffin arrives at the cathedral at 2.55pm it will be received by a guard of honour found by the Royal Company of Archers, before the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, the keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, places the Crown of Scotland on it.

A service will be conducted by the Rev Calum MacLeod, Minister of St Giles’. The congregation “will be drawn from all areas of Scottish society”, according to a Palace official.

After the service, the coffin will rest in the cathedral for 24 hours to enable the people of Scotland to pay their respects while a continuous vigil is mounted by the Royal Company of Archers. The King and members of the Royal family will mount their own vigil at 7.20pm.

Tuesday, Sept 13

At 5pm, following prayers, the coffin will be taken by hearse to Edinburgh Airport, where it will be placed aboard an RAF aircraft by a bearer party found by the Royal Air Force. The Princess Royal will fly with her mother’s coffin on the journey to London, taking off at 6pm and landing at RAF Northolt in

west London at 6.55pm. Also on the flight will be The Very Revd Prof David Fergusson, Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland. On arrival at Northolt, the coffin will be placed in a state hearse as a salute is given by an RAF honour guard.

The hearse will be driven to Buckingham Palace where it will be received at the grand entrance by a guard of honour found by The King’s Guard. A bearer party found by The Queen’s Company, 1st Bn Grenadier Guards, will take the coffin to the Bow Room where it will be placed on trestles.

The arrival will be witnessed by the King and Queen along with other members of the Royal family. The Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, Dean of the Chapels Royal, will conduct prayers and a rota of chaplains to the King will keep watch over the coffin overnight.

Wednesday, Sept 14

The Imperial State Crown and a wreath of flowers will be placed on the coffin and prayers will be said by the Dean of the Chapels Royal in the presence of the King and members of the Royal family.

At 2.22pm the coffin will be placed on a gun carriage of The King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery for the procession to the Palace of Westminster.

The King and other members of the Royal family will walk behind the coffin, with minute guns firing from Hyde Park and Big Ben tolling during what will otherwise be a silent journey, ending at 3pm when the coffin is taken into Westminster Hall.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will conduct a short service assisted by The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster. Members of the Royal family who did not walk behind the coffin will also be present. Inside Westminster Hall, the coffin will be placed on a catafalque and at the conclusion of the service the Royal family will return to Buckingham Palace by car.

As the lying in state begins, a continuous vigil will be mounted by officers of the Household Division, the King’s Body Guards of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, The King’s Bodyguard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers and The King’s Bodyguard The Yeomen of the Guard.

Lying in state will continue for another four days, during which members of the public will be able to file past the coffin to pay their own respects.

Thursday, Sept 15 to Sunday, Sept 18

Westminster Hall is expected to remain open for 23 hours a day to accommodate the substantial number of people who are expected to make the journey to central London. Full details of how the public can attend will be announced by the Government later this week.

Monday, Sept 19

Public access to the lying in state will end at 6.30am when the preparations for the state funeral begin in earnest. Full details of the programme have not yet been announced but the coffin is expected to be taken on a gun carriage from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey, where hundreds of world leaders and members of foreign royal families will be in attendance.

Full details of the procession route have not yet been released, but because the distance from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey is so short, it is expected to be taken on an extended route to allow as many members of the public as possible to line the route.

Palace officials refused to speculate on how many people might be in central London on the day of the funeral, but hundreds of thousands attended when Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother died in 2002 and interest in Queen Elizabeth II’s funeral is likely to be considerably higher.

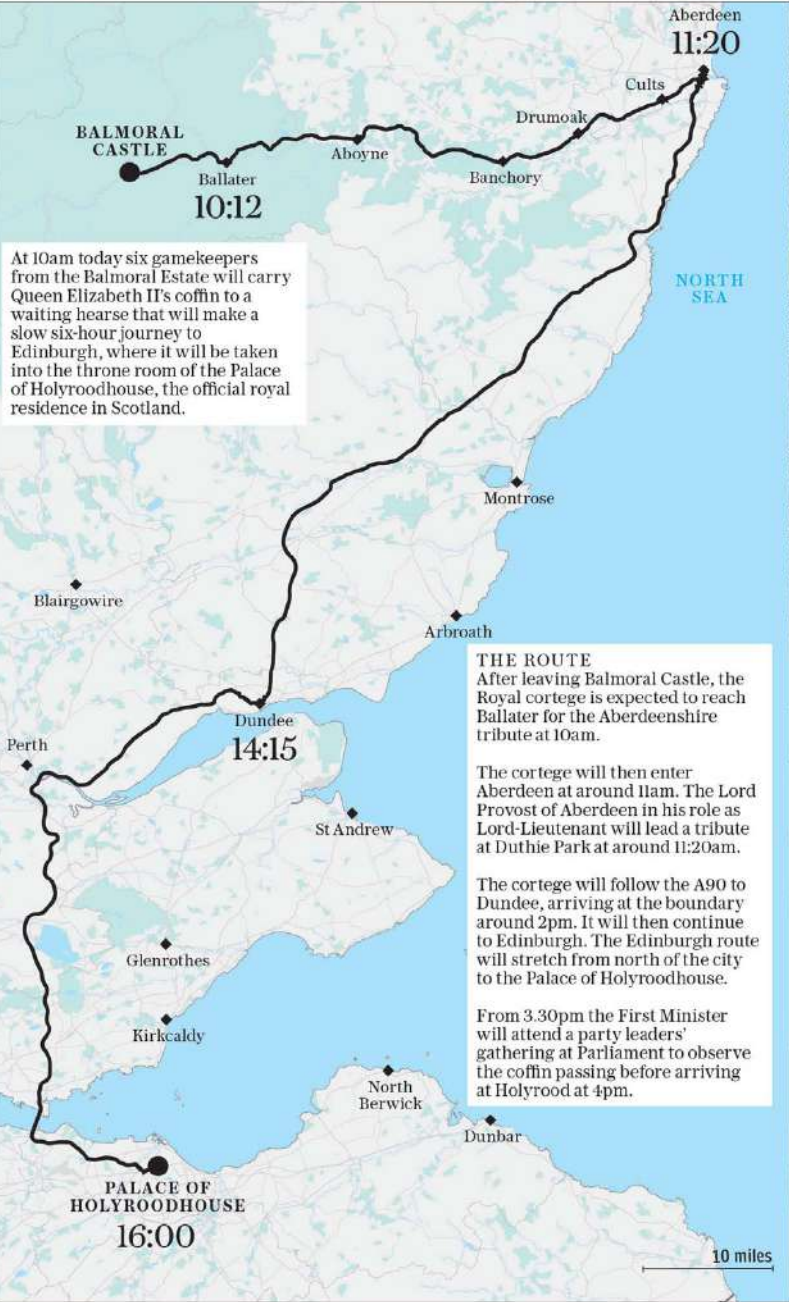
The funeral service will end at 12.15pm, when the coffin will be taken on a gun carriage from Westminster Abbey to the Wellington Arch, where it will be placed in a hearse to make the journey to Windsor by road. The hearse will arrive at Windsor Castle via the Long Walk, and taken into St George’s Chapel for a televised committal service attended by the Royal family.

Once the committal service is over, close family members will move to the tiny King George VI Memorial Chapel for a private interment ceremony.

In accordance with Queen Elizabeth’s wishes, she will be buried alongside her husband Prince Philip – whose coffin will be moved from the royal vault in St George’s Chapel where it has rested since his funeral last year – along with her parents and her sister, Princess Margaret.

What happens next? *September 11–19*

Today



Tomorrow



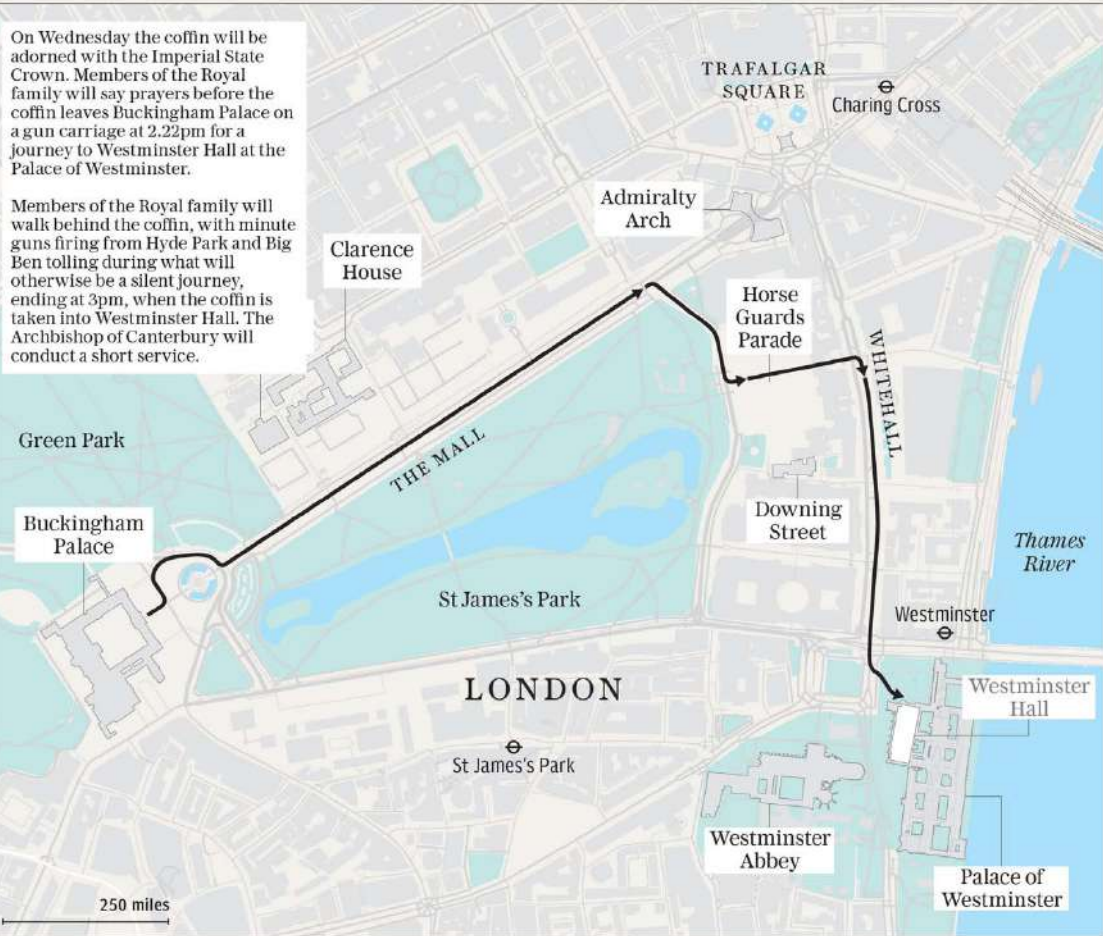
Tuesday

TAKING THE COFFIN TO

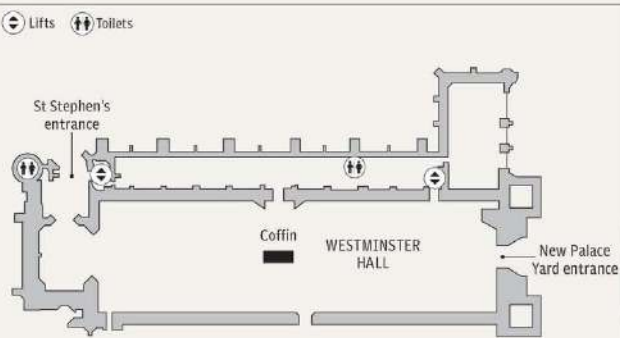
On Tuesday at 5pm, the coffin will be taken on the 45-minute journey from St Giles' Cathedral to Edinburgh Airport, where the Princess Royal will accompany her late mother on the flight to RAF Northolt in London, landing at 6.55pm. The coffin will be driven to Buckingham Palace.

Wednesday

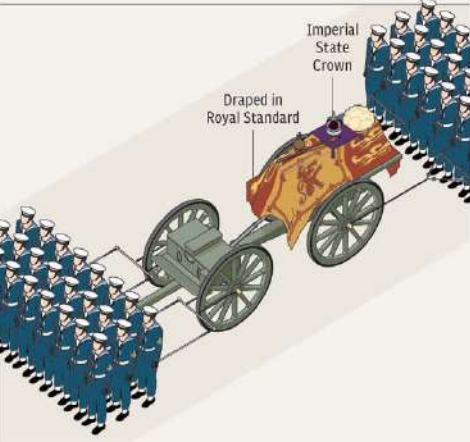
THE CEREMONIAL ROUTE

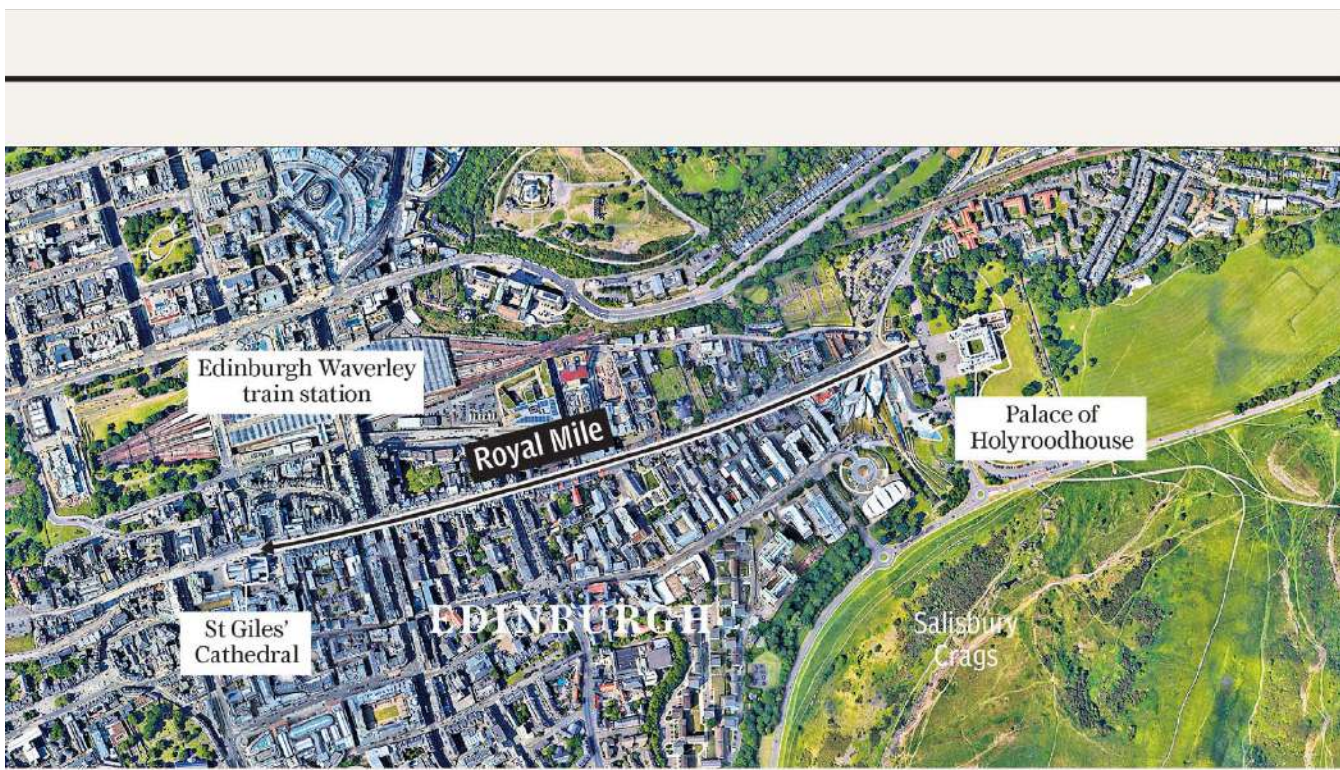


LYING IN STATE IN WESTMINSTER HALL



THE CARRIAGE





Bank holiday in honour of state funeral as TV viewers to top billion

Employers asked to be sensitive over requests for time off for workers to see ‘unique national moment’

By Gordon Rayner
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BRITAIN has been given an extra bank holiday for the day of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral on Sept 19.

The King granted his approval for the public holiday during a meeting of the Accession Council where he was formally declared Head of State.

Schools and shops will be closed, postal services will be suspended and most of the country will be given the day off work to watch the first state funeral of a monarch since 1952 and the first state funeral of any kind in Britain since Winston Churchill was given the honour in 1965.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy said the decision had been taken to “allow individuals, businesses and other organisations to pay their respects to Her Majesty and commemorate her reign, while marking the final day of the period of national mourning”.

Although bank holidays do not mean workers have no statutory entitlement to time off, and employers can include the day as part of annual leave entitlement, the department said next Monday “will be a unique national moment, and we would encourage employers to respond sensitively to requests from workers who wish to take time off”.

A worldwide TV audience which could top one billion is expected to watch the day's events.

The funeral arrangements will conclude with a private interment in the King George VI Memorial Chapel away from the cameras.

Queen Elizabeth's coffin will be lowered into a family vault alongside her parents, sister Princess Margaret and husband Prince Philip, whose coffin will be moved from the royal vault beneath St George's Chapel, where it has resided since his funeral last year.

The Liberal Democrat Party, whose annual conference was due to take place from Sep 17 to 20, announced it was cancelling the event in Brighton because it would have clashed with the funeral.

Nick da Costa, who chairs the party's federal conference committee, said the Lib Dems “want and need to show our respect to the Queen and the period of national mourning”.

Instead the event will be combined with the annual spring conference next year, which is normally a much smaller affair.

The Labour Party conference is still due to go ahead from Sept 25-28, as is the Conservative Party conference at the start of October.

Royal Mail – where workers called off a planned strike when news of Queen Elizabeth's death broke – announced it would suspend services on the day of the funeral as a mark of respect. Simon Thompson, chief executive of Royal Mail, said the service

would continue to play an “important role” in delivering messages of condolence to the Royal family.

He said: “We are proud that over the coming days Royal Mail will play an important role delivering messages of condolence from all around the world to the Royal family.

“We want to make our customers aware that services will be suspended on the day of the funeral as people come together to honour Her Majesty, after 70 years of exemplary service to the nation and the Commonwealth.”

The relationship between the monarch and the British postal service has been in place for more than 500 years, since King Henry VIII appointed the very first postmaster.

Royal Mail said the Queen continued this close relationship, taking a keen interest in Royal Mail and playing an active role in the selection and approval of stamps.

Retailer John Lewis confirmed all of its department stores and Waitrose shops will close on the day of the funeral, although a limited number of Waitrose outlets on the route of the funeral, which is yet to be confirmed, may stay open to serve members of the public in attendance. These shops will be closed during the funeral service.

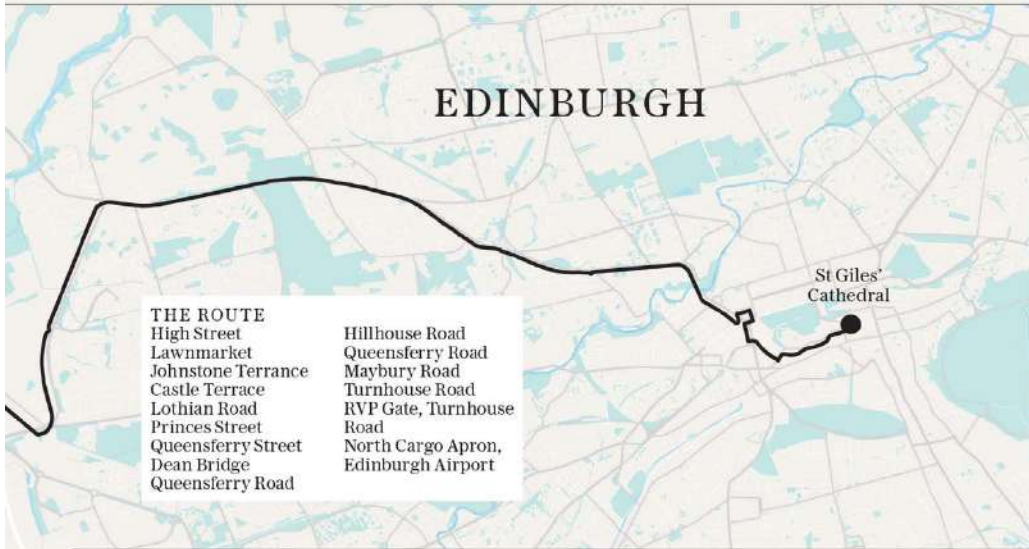
Andrew Murphy, chief operating officer of the John Lewis Partnership, said: “We are deeply saddened by the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

“We are closing our stores on the day of her funeral as a mark of respect, and because we believe this is the right

1965

The last year Britain saw a state funeral, to mark the life of the wartime prime minister Sir Winston Churchill

E AIRPORT



FLIGHT TO LONDON



Monday 19th

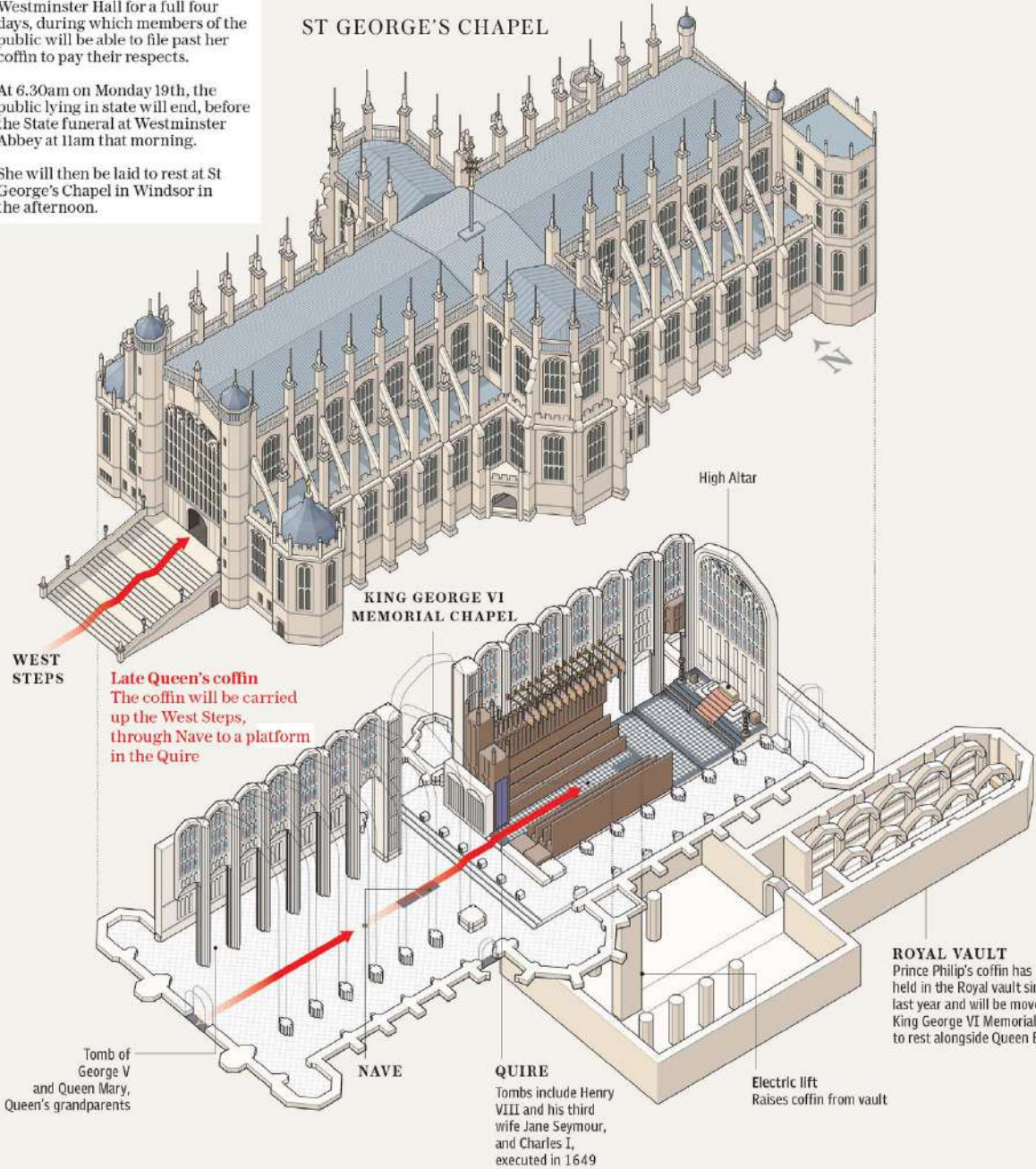
STATE FUNERAL AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY THEN LAID TO REST IN WINDSOR

Queen Elizabeth will lie in state at Westminster Hall for a full four days, during which members of the public will be able to file past her coffin to pay their respects.

At 6.30am on Monday 19th, the public lying in state will end, before the State funeral at Westminster Abbey at 11am that morning.

She will then be laid to rest at St George's Chapel in Windsor in the afternoon.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL



Late Queen's coffin
The coffin will be carried up the West Steps, through Nave to a platform in the Quire

ROYAL VAULT
Prince Philip's coffin has been held in the Royal vault since his funeral last year and will be moved to the King George VI Memorial Chapel to rest alongside Queen Elizabeth II

King to ‘share the grief’ Tour of UK to meet mourners

The King is to visit all four corners of the UK in the coming days alongside Liz Truss, the Prime Minister.

The event, given the code name Operation Spring Tide, will enable them to greet members of the public and receive condolences in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

A royal source said His Majesty was “keen to meet as many people as possible, sharing the grief”.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman confirmed that Ms Truss would join the King as he leads the national mourning across the country, attending services of reflection in its constituent parts. He revealed that the Prime Minister had

chosen to accompany the monarch, as she has no constitutional obligation to do so. “It's not a requirement, but the Prime Minister believes it's important to be present for what will be a significant moment of national mourning around the UK,” he said.

On Monday, the King and Queen will fly to Edinburgh, where their first stop will be the Palace of Holyroodhouse, where the King will inspect his mother's Guard of Honour. That will be followed by the traditional Ceremony of the Keys on the palace's forecourt.

The King will then attend a service of prayer and reflection for the life of Queen Elizabeth II at St Giles’

Cathedral before returning to Holyrood.

There, he will have an audience with Nicola Sturgeon, the First Minister, followed by an audience with the presiding officer of the Scottish Parliament.

The King and Queen Consort will then hear a motion of condolence at the Scottish Parliament and the monarch will make his reply.

That evening, His Majesty will hold a vigil with members of the Royal family at St Giles’

On Tuesday, the King and Queen will fly to Belfast and then to Hillsborough Castle, where they will view an exhibition chronicling Queen Elizabeth II's long association with Northern Ireland. The King will then meet Chris

Heaton-Harris, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and party leaders before receiving a message of condolence led by the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The King will make his reply. After a short reception at Hillsborough, the King and Queen will travel to St Anne's Cathedral for a service of prayer and reflection.

Before the service, His Majesty will meet the leaders of the major faiths in Northern Ireland.

The royal party will then head back to London. On Friday, they will travel to Wales, where there is likely to be a service at Llandaff Cathedral and an audience with Mark Drakeford, the First Minister, at Cardiff Castle. **Victoria Ward**



Royal family share their sorrow with the

Duke of York and daughters join Princess Royal in emotional meeting with public

By Will Bolton and Max Stephens

Ever since the devastating news of the Queen's death broke, mourners from far and wide have flocked to the gates of Balmoral to express their grief and add to the ever-growing sea of floral tributes. Yesterday, with tears in their eyes and emotions spilling over, it was the turn of the Royal family to visit the spot and share their sorrow with the public.

Led by the Duke of York, the senior royals gathered for a small private service at Crathie Kirk, before walking across the River Dee to inspect the floral tributes that had

been laid outside the wrought-iron gates of the Aberdeenshire estate. With the grief of the past few days clearly etched on their faces several of the public for their support through his family's grief. He told one member of the crowd: "We've been allowed one day, now we start the process of handing her on." Putting his arm around Eugenie he comforted her as she dabbed her eyes

remembering her beloved grandmother. Princess Anne, the Princess Royal, was accompanied by her husband, Vice-Admiral Timothy Laurence, as they walked down the pine-tree lined path to the gates of Balmoral. Her daughter, Zara Tindall, was also tearful as she viewed the heartfelt messages and tributes left by members of the public, veterans, former royal staff members and schoolchildren from across the world. The Earl and Countess of Wessex were also present with their daughter, Lady Louise Windsor, and all of them appeared to be struggling to keep their emotions in check. After spending nearly five minutes reading the cards and tributes, the family walked inside the gates of

'We have been allowed one day as a family. Tomorrow we start the process of handing her on'

Balmoral, waving to the assembled crowd and again passing on their thanks. In response, the crowd broke into applause and waved the family off as they returned to the estate, where the Queen spent her final weeks. Among those in the crowd was Mark Lindley-Highfield, a lecturer from Inverness, who was dressed in a black three-piece suit as a "sign of his devotion to the Queen". Tom Harrison, 62, from Forres, Moray, said he had spoken briefly to the Duke of York and the Princess Royal, and had asked how the family were coping. He said the Duke had replied: "We've been allowed one day as a family. Tomorrow we start the process of handing her on." Mr Harrison added: "They were all very sombre. They've lost their mum

and their grandmother. It's a family bereavement." Jackie McIntosh, 69, who had travelled from Aberdeen with her partner John Coutts, 49, and sister Aileen Mitchell, 66, said she had felt she wanted to pay her quiet respects. Mr Coutts added: "It has only been a couple of days since they have lost their mother, their grandmother, a family member... so at the end of the day they are just a family. Like the rest of us, they are human." When asked if he was surprised to see the Duke taking such a prominent role in proceedings following his withdrawal from official Royal duties, Mr Coutts said: "At the end of the day, it is his mum and he is quite entitled to grieve along with everyone else." Matthew Roland-Page, 25, explained that he had come to

Princess Beatrice, Lady Louise Windsor, the Countess of Wessex, Peter Phillips, the Duke of York, Zara Tindall and the Earl of Wessex outside Balmoral, above left; Zara Tindall in tears while viewing the flowers at the gates, top right; the Duke of York comforts Beatrice and Eugenie



Public line up to pay tribute to the Queen who ‘kept us all together’

Thousands sign books of condolence for the Royal family at Chelmsford Cathedral and around UK

By Rosa Silverman

SINCE the two books of condolence were opened in Chelmsford Cathedral on Friday, a steady stream of visitors has poured through the doors. They have come to pay tribute to the woman one mourner aptly referred to as “the glue that kept us all together”.

Another word cropped up repeatedly in the books laid out in the middle of this Essex church that dates back to Norman times: “inspiration”. This is what Queen Elizabeth II was, to the hundreds who have come to write messages and light candles since her death on Thursday at the age of 96. Many were not regulars at the church but had come here to say their own goodbyes.

“Thank you for everything. You will never be forgotten,” wrote Patricia Barnes. “You taught us all what dedication means,” wrote Diane Jones.

“Ma’am, I am so proud to have served you in the office of constable,” wrote Ann-Marie Aubynn.

The mourners spanned the generations, from those old enough to remember watching Elizabeth II’s coronation on television in 1953, to school children accompanying their parents to the church to mark the passing of the only monarch they had known.

“She was our rock,” said Kay Knowles, 43, a history teacher who brought her 16-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter with her to sign the book of condolences. “I feel passionate about the monarchy. We’re going to lay flowers in the park and hopefully we’ll get to the Palace in London as well.”

For Sylvia, 77, a mother of three and grandmother of one, who remembers a young Elizabeth II being crowned, her death has left “a big gap”.

She said: “What are we going to be without her? She did such a lot during her life, not only for our country but for the Commonwealth. As much as I knew it was coming, deep down I think really I’m still in shock.”

But, she added: “We’re going to be fine with Charles.”

As the mourners continued to wander in, a visiting choir began rehearsing for the Evensong service, their voices filling every corner of the church.

Each candle lit in memory of the late Queen represented another individual for whom she had meant something special; another life touched by her steady presence. Meanwhile, above them all, the early September sunlight poured through the stained glass windows, bright, serene and powerful.

There were similar scenes around the country, as people everywhere flocked to sign books of condolences or lay flowers and pay their respects. In the more prosaic interiors of leisure centres and council buildings, similar books have been opened, while it is believed tens of thousands congregated on the streets of London yesterday. Many had travelled from outside the capital to come and express their sympathies and sadness, collectively, at locations including The Mall and Buckingham Palace.

Joanna Stowell, 52, travelled from Barnstaple in Devon with her husband Mark, 55, to lay flowers outside the Palace. “All the family are really big royalists so we thought we had to come up,” said Mrs Stowell, a retired company director. “Elizabeth II was like the nation’s grandmother. She was our pillar of strength and she held the country together. We all knew it was going to happen but it is so sad that it has hap-

pened. She was just a wonderful lady.” Dominique Horton, 50, an art dealer from Wolverhampton, took the train to Paddington station with her husband Wayne, 58, and 12-year-old daughter Aurelie. “I was born in Mauritius and she was very respected there,” she said. “She visited in the 1960s when it was still a British colony. Some of my grandparents were very lucky that they saw her. They have all been messaging me with their condolences as if she was part of our family. I felt I had to come to London because she was part of my history and the family’s history.”

“It felt like the right thing to do and we also want to welcome Charles as he begins his reign.”

Lesley Shilleto, 44, a sales supervisor from Marlow in Buckinghamshire, who was with her 13-year-old daughter, Kayla, and 10-year-old son, Harry, said: “I came to lay flowers when Diana died and felt I needed to do the same thing again. I was born in South Africa and the Commonwealth has always been very important to me. I admired the fact that Elizabeth II just loved the role.”

In Edinburgh, one well-wisher left a marmalade sandwich inside a zipped plastic bag next to a stuffed Paddington Bear at the gates of the Palace of Holyroodhouse. It was an affectionate nod to the widely celebrated sketch in which the late Queen joined forces with the



Paddington Bear and marmalade sandwich left outside the Palace of Holyroodhouse

fictional bear for her Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.

One visitor to Holyroodhouse left a copy of Michael Bond’s book *Paddington At The Rainbow’s End*. A note written on it said simply: “One last story, Ma’am. X”

At the Palace gates, some mourners could be seen wiping tears from their eyes. Others travelled to Balmoral Castle in Aberdeenshire to lay their flowers and leave tributes there.

Even visiting tourists from overseas changed their holiday plans this weekend to pay their respects to a monarch whose admirers are found all over the world.

Wayne Cloutier, 59, from New Haven in Florida, flew over from the US with his wife Kathy, 56, on Friday night. Although they were scheduled to go straight to Southampton, they decided to stay a day in London to join the mourners outside Buckingham Palace. “We wanted to come here to pay tribute to a wonderful woman,” said Mr Cloutier. “We just think she is a sweetheart lady. I hope the monarchy will go on. We want to see it last forever.”

Back in Chelmsford Cathedral, the messages of condolences continued to multiply: messages of sadness, but above all of profound gratitude.

“Although we never met you, we feel like we knew you personally,” wrote Laura Jennings and Matthew Hale, summing up a sentiment clearly felt by so many nationwide. “Our only monarch, a constant in our lives. A shining example of dignity and grace. We feel so privileged to have had you. Thank you for your service.”

mourners at the gates of Balmoral

Balmoral with his 18-month old baby Ezra. He said Princess Beatrice had spotted him in the crowd and commented on how well-behaved Ezra was being.

Mr Roland-Page said: “She said he was being very patient and wasn’t sure her children necessarily would.”

Donna Crompton, 58, explained how she had spotted Princess Eugenie tearing up as she walked past and gently held her hand and patted her on the back to comfort her.

Mrs Compton said she had travelled 324 miles from Liverpool to Balmoral on Saturday morning along with her husband Andy, 63, to pay their respects.

She said that when she had told Prince Edward how far they had travelled, he exclaimed: “Crikey, that’s a long way”.

Mrs Compton said: “Sophie was

also noticeably upset. She said, ‘Thank you for coming, it means a lot’.”

There was a noticeably heightened police presence at Balmoral Castle as staff prepared for the senior royals to pay their respects following the church service ended shortly after 2pm yesterday.

Mourners’ bags were searched and plain-clothes police officers moved among the gathered crowds as they waited patiently for the royals to arrive.

The crowd was told that if they wanted to pass their flowers to the royals as they walked past, they were welcome to do so.

Crathie Kirk, the church where the regular place of worship of the British royal family and the Queen visited there regularly. Queen

‘She was lovely to talk to. She put you at ease immediately. She was just like everybody else’

Victoria also worshipped there from 1848, and every British monarch since has attended Crathie Kirk.

As they waited for the service to finish, the crowds shared personal stories and memories of the Queen Elizabeth II and the impact that she had on their lives.

Brenda O’Mara, 82, who visited Balmoral with her daughter, Amanda, Harris, 57, fondly remembered watching Queen Elizabeth’s coronation as an 11-year-old girl. She said: “We didn’t have television back then so me and all of my friends had to cram ourselves into our local cinema.”

Amanda, a retired Ministry of Defence official, she and her mother had made the hour-long drive from Gourdon “out of loyalty to such a wonderful woman”.

Ms O’Mara, who grew up in

Pembrokeshire, Wales, said: “King Charles – that is going to take some getting used to.”

Vic Neill, who drove the late Duke of Edinburgh in his carriage on more than a dozen occasions, recalled how the royal rescued a runaway horse after he accidentally crashed the vehicle.

He said: “This was in the early 1990s, I was driving Philip and hit a hazard toppling the whole thing over. He ran after one of the horses who had bolted and brought it back to me. I was a bit embarrassed about the whole thing.”

Frances Ashford said she had travelled 70 miles from Carnoustie to lay a bouquet on behalf of her and her husband, who had met the Queen on a number of occasions.

The 70-year-old said: “My husband, David, worked for the Zimbabwean

Mall content? Mystery over man’s arrest

A man was detained after climbing a barrier near Buckingham Palace and running on to The Mall, shortly before the King and Queen were driven along the route. Some in the crowd claim he may have simply been trying to cross from one side of the road to the other.

Consulate. He met Charles on a number of occasions as part of his job.

“He met the Queen as well and he said she was incredibly lovely to talk to. She put you at ease immediately. She was just like everybody else.”

Today, the Queen’s body will leave her beloved Balmoral for the final time as her coffin is transported the 175 miles to Edinburgh by road following a procession through Highland towns and villages.

In the Scottish capital, the coffin will be taken to the Palace of Holyroodhouse where its arrival will be witnessed by Scotland’s First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

From here, it will be taken in procession to St Giles’ Cathedral, where the Queen will lie at rest for 24 hours, allowing the public to view her coffin before it goes to London.



Team Charles can help make the King a unifying force for Britain

Camilla Tominey
ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Queen Consort has given King confidence in his own instincts which he is now ready to exploit to the full

The speech had been a living document for decades, but when it came to delivering his first address as King, Charles III was determined to add some last-minute finishing touches.

As he prepared to land at RAF Northolt on Friday, after being with his mother during her final hours in Balmoral, the King was still making

eleventh-hour adjustments to what he knew would be the most important speech of his life.

Visibly moved – and surprised – by the warmth of the scenes outside Buckingham Palace, where well-wishers broke out in spontaneous renditions of *God Save the King*, he went on to deliver one of the most remarkably personal speeches ever given by a reigning monarch.

At times appearing overcome with emotion, it was Charles as we had never seen him before; a King not just speaking as head of state but as a loving son, husband, father.

For years there had been fears that he would never live up to his mother's example, but in presenting himself as a grandfatherly statesman, leading a nation – as well as a Royal family – in mourning, the 73-year-old sovereign has had an auspicious start that has

inspired confidence. *The Sunday Telegraph* has learnt that the new monarch was “genuinely taken aback” and “deeply humbled” by the overwhelmingly positive reaction to his first walkabout as King, when he was cheered and even kissed by one of the thousands who had gathered in The Mall for his arrival with Queen Camilla at his side.

The King had been scheduled to conduct the “meet and greet” after yesterday's Accession Council but the moment was brought forward in recognition of the depth of feeling that has been expressed since Queen Elizabeth died on Thursday.

According to one well-placed source: “He's never someone who has been complacent in that regard.

“Because of what happened in the earlier part of his life and the end of his marriage to Diana, Princess of Wales,

he's never expected the support of the people but those first moments came naturally to him. It's no mistake he got out and decided to meet people before private secretaries. Camilla has helped in that regard.

“Over the past 17 years, the Queen Consort has given him confidence in his own instincts. What he really wants to do is connect with people.”

Hence, the deeply personal speech, which was almost entirely written by the King himself.

“North of 90 per cent are his own words with others sense-checking it for fact or detail points,” revealed an insider. “He likes writing, and enjoys being able to bring in classical references, which is why we heard a bit of *Hamlet* in there.”

The from-the-heart address was also designed to create an air of relatability in a bid to kick-start a monarchy

determined to be in touch with the modern era. As his mother did before him, the King is keen to ensure the Royal family is “seen to be believed”, from televising yesterday's Accession Council ceremony, when he was officially proclaimed as King, to posting Instagram stories showing what is going on behind the scenes. Footage released by the Palace after his first national address showed the King asking the camera crew: “Am I done?” He also wants it to be seen as a unifying force for a Britain facing the hardship of a cost of living crisis, now confounded by the loss of their beloved Queen Elizabeth.

As the source added: “The speech goes to the heart of the man – he's a man of great emotional intelligence and anyone who knows him well and has been the recipient of any letter of support or message from him will

know that he has a high level of feeling towards others. It's a sign of modernity that he's comfortable expressing himself in that way.

“It's the great misunderstanding as the new King – for years he has been defined as someone serious or po-faced – but he's a man capable of great emotion and understanding and, with this change in role, people have an opportunity to see him afresh.”

Planning for the transformation of Prince Charles to King Charles III has been many years in the making – but the smoothness of the transition so far is largely down to a tight-knit team of key aides, led by long-standing private secretary Sir Clive Alderton, a former diplomat who has acted as his closest adviser since 2015.

On a practical level, “Team Charles” has spent years rehearsing Operation London Bridge, the late Queen's funeral plan, right down to where the furniture was to be placed for yesterday's signing of the oath and proclamation in the Throne Room at St James's Palace. But meticulous planning has also gone into how King Charles will rule.

Describing the extent of Sir Clive's influence as someone who “maximises impact and minimises risk”, one former royal aide explained: “Clive is the architect of everything behind the scenes. He is someone who has a deep understanding of the constitution and

ALI BONGO ONDIMBA,
PRESIDENT OF GABON

*'He is a trusted friend of
our country. He can
count on my support'*

CROWN PRINCE MOHAMMED
BIN SALMAN OF SAUDI ARABIA

*'We send Your Majesty
our congratulations and
wishes for success'*

PRESIDENT SHEIKH MOHAMMED
BIN ZAYED AL-NAHYAN OF UAE

*'We look forward to
strengthening this
exceptional friendship'*

JUSTIN TRUDEAU, CANADA PM

*'We affirm our loyalty
to Canada's new King
and offer him our
full support'*

ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

*'May he reign with
wisdom and integrity
after the example of
his mother'*

SIR PAUL MCCARTNEY

*'God bless Queen
Elizabeth II. May
she rest in peace.
Long live the King'*



can anticipate issues that can arise in these big moments; his technical knowledge is extremely valuable.

"Clive's magic is his ability to deliver difficult messages wrapped in charm and when circumstances permit, bonhomie. Someone who understands that the needs of the institution will not always be the same as the wishes of the individual but is still willing to put the needs of the institution first.

"He is also someone who is not afraid to express an opinion and contrary to popular belief, the King appreciates that. He wants counsel, he doesn't want obedience."

Sir Clive was present at yesterday's Accession Council ceremony alongside Peter St Clair-Erskine, the 7th Earl of Rosslyn, who has been master of the King's household at Clarence House since 2014.

"If you think of Clive as the director, Peter is the producer," the former aide said. "He makes sure the events are executed flawlessly and that everyone understands their roles, the machinery of the institution runs smoothly."

Both men are expected to keep their jobs as King Charles moves to Buckingham Palace, as anticipated. (The redistribution of the royal real estate footprint is still to be worked out but it is thought the King is keen on the idea of "repurposing" some of the properties).

But the heralding in of the new

Clockwise from above left: King Charles is accompanied by Sir Clive Alderton, his private secretary, as he arrives at Buckingham Palace yesterday after being proclaimed as the new monarch; six-year-old Luca Cuff and his sister, Gigi, three, hold home-made signs outside the palace; floral tributes to Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle

guard leaves Sir Edward Young, the late Queen's private secretary, who was also at the ceremony alongside the Prince of Wales's closest aide, Jean Christophe Gray, potentially facing redundancy with other members of her household.

Although as one insider pointed out, full transition will take months – and more staff will be needed to support the King's burgeoning in-tray.

"Quite a few people will have been wanting to see out their careers with Queen Elizabeth and naturally her death will mark the end point for them. There is still a Queen's household even if she's not there and a lot of work will still be needed to establish her legacy.

"And although he advocates a slimmed-down monarchy, actually the new King will need more staff than he previously had. He is going to have a much busier programme than Queen Elizabeth has had in recent years, particularly in the first few years as he establishes his new reign.

"So, much like any other merger and acquisition, there will be a mapping of resources set against the strategic needs of the institution over the next five years."

Another pivotal figure will be Sophie Densham, Queen Camilla's private secretary, who was also at yesterday's event and has helped to run her office for more than a decade.

Decisions will have to be made, such as what will happen to the Prince's Trust after the King confirmed in his first address that "it will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply".

The statement was designed to signal the King's transition from campaigning prince to convening monarch – sending a clear message to those who worry that he cannot step back from a life of outspokenness.

It is thought that the charity he founded in 1976 will carry on in the same vein raising money for underprivileged and socially challenged people around the world.

As one source pointed out: "The King has long been a background figurehead and it's not financially dependent on him."

The King has certainly had a considerable amount of help in preparing for this moment but, arguably, his success as sovereign will ultimately depend on how he chooses to conduct himself.

Just by becoming King, Charles III appears to have gained more of the public's support than he enjoyed as heir to the throne.

He will surely keep their trust if, like his mother, the rest of his life is defined by the seminal King's speech in which he promised to serve his people "with loyalty, respect and love".

Come and see us soon for tea, he told me as we parted. The following day, all had changed

Alan Titchmarsh



Over decades, my friend has transformed lives – the 24 hours before he became King was no exception

Wednesday Sept 7 2022 was just another busy day in the life of the heir to the throne: a day in Scotland where the man most of us called the Prince of Wales was known as the Duke of Rothesay. He was staying at Dumfries House, the centre of operations for his charitable organisation, the Prince's Foundation, of which I have been an ambassador since its inception. The rain poured down as I left Southampton airport.

The sun came out when I arrived in Ayrshire, where the Prince faced a full day of meetings with members of charitable organisations and initiatives that, without his involvement, would either founder or not even exist.

There was the presentation of an award to a doctor who had gone beyond the call of duty in treating the sick. It involved a newspaper photographer and a television crew. The Prince had agreed to surprise her with the award when she thought she was simply being given a look around the house. Her reaction as he walked into the room can be imagined.

The late Queen's smile was often talked about; her eldest son's outgoing warmth less frequently alluded to. His ability to connect is instant and genuine – something I have experienced at close quarters since we first met almost 40 years ago. Over that time we have become friends. Partly as two gardeners who love the great outdoors, but also as two individuals whose upbringing could not have been more different but whose common goal is to make a difference to people's lives – me in extolling the importance of gardens and nature, he in ... well, just about every way possible.

By virtue of his unique position, he has always reached the parts others cannot, and regarded it as his duty not to stand idly by when he can change lives for the better. What are perceived as his occasional lapses of judgment are pounced upon; his countless successes often go unnoticed except by those whose lives are transformed.

I have stayed with him in his houses, seen at first hand his insatiable capacity for work (he will join the house party for meals and for walks, but there are always times when he disappears to crack on with more work). Last Wednesday was one such day.

I was there to catch up on the developments at Dumfries House over the last few years since our new King rescued the place and its unique collection of Chippendale furniture, mortgaging his foundation to the tune of £11 million in doing so. Spotting him across the lawn as I began my tour, I leapt out of the Land Rover to say hello. The welcome was joyful and enthusiastic. "Is your wife here?" "No; I'm on my own." "But you're staying for dinner?" "Yes." "Lovely. I'll see you later." And after gently teasing each other about this and that as friends do, we went our various ways.

I explored the estate and noticed the astonishing speed of developments in the buildings and the gardens. I met just some of the 12,000 people – from schoolchildren to mature adults – who benefit from courses here each year in everything from textiles to masonry, water engineering to carpentry, landscape sustainability to health and well-being. I met gardeners and estate workers who love the place. The locals adore him. He has turned around the fortunes of this struggling part of East Ayrshire, given the residents pride in their community and increased the number of visitors who have benefited the local economy.

The Prince went off to meetings – first to discuss what can be done to improve the lives of those with allergies, then with a committee of generous American women he has encouraged to turn around the fortunes of a run-down part of Jamaica. There were more individuals to meet before the evening's gathering – a black-tie reception and dinner hosted by the Prince to say thank you to all those concerned. There were no speeches, just good food, good

company and wide-ranging conversation. The Prince's expression varied between that of intense conversation and unrestrained laughter; he and the atmosphere were relaxed and friendly – not remotely stuffy. The Prince wore the kilt that belonged to his grandfather, King George VI, he told an enquiring American lady in a long, glittering dress who, after their conversation, waxed lyrical to me about the man who has become her hero.

Then we moved into the dining room of The Great Steward of Scotland, one of the alternative titles of the Duke of Rothesay. The Duchess of Cornwall, on whose left I was meant to be sitting, was delayed by her flight from Heathrow. She could not make the dinner. The Prince was sad but philosophical. I found myself, instead, next to Dame Sue Bruce, the feisty, experienced chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Prince's Foundation, formerly chief executive of the City of Edinburgh Council and now the holder of various posts including chairman of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. The conversation covered everything from Classical music to the relative merits of different gins.

The candles caused the silver candelabra to sparkle, delicious locally grown food was accompanied by fine wines. For the first two courses, the Prince spoke to an American lady, Michelle, on his right, one of the benefactors of the Jamaican project. For pudding, he turned to Jenna Bush-Hager, daughter of president George W. Bush, on his left to enquire about a film she is making on the work of the Foundation.

We took coffee afterwards in a tapestry-lined gallery while two musicians played us a couple of jaunty Scottish airs on a guitar and penny whistle. The Prince tapped his foot in time with the music before giving the



The former Prince of Wales with Alan Titchmarsh in the Healing Garden at Chelsea Flower Show, 2002

man on the whistle a bottle of scotch and the woman on the guitar a bottle of champagne, chatting casually to both.

The recital was short, the applause genuine, and after making his way around the room, shaking hands with almost everyone there, smiling, thanking them for coming and encouraging them in their endeavours, the Prince headed for the exit. Because I stood by the door, he shook my hand last of all and said: "Come and see us soon for tea." I thanked him and he left the room as Duke of Rothesay, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and assorted other titles, unaware that he was doing so for the very last time. He was happy; it had been a good day.

The next day, he woke up early as usual, but by the middle of the afternoon those ancient appellations would be redistributed among more junior members of his family. Prince William became Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall. Prince Charles would have but one title: the King.

But his direction of travel will be the same – facing the future with every bit as much determination, conviction and dedication to his country and the Commonwealth, its realms and territories as his mother, but in his own style. King Charles III has waited more than seventy years for this moment. He knows what is expected of him; he knows that he will no longer have the freedom to express himself as he did when heir to the throne. He has more than proved his worth as Prince of Wales. We all owe it to him and to his mother, the late Queen, to give him and his Queen Consort the support and encouragement he has so genuinely earned. He is of proven quality as an individual and a worthy and devoted guardian of our heritage.

As a friend of his and a staunch admirer of his tenacity and sincerity, I wish him God speed in his quest. I say, with all my heart and not a hint of embarrassment: God Save the King!

PM knew Queen was ill before entering Commons

Edward Malnick
SUNDAY POLITICAL
EDITOR



New staff in Downing Street swung into action after early warning from royal aides at Balmoral

It was one of Liz Truss's most vociferous critics who brought into sharp focus the weight resting on the new Prime Minister's shoulders.

Ian Blackford, the Scottish National Party's Westminster leader, made a point of telling the Commons that his thoughts were with Ms Truss, who "just days into her term in office" was "having to come to terms with the enormity of the loss of the Head of State, and show the leadership that is now required in her position".

It had been believed that the first Ms Truss knew of Queen Elizabeth II's declining health was when Nadhim Zahawi, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, urgently briefed the Prime Minister following a Commons statement on her energy rescue package, 24 hours earlier.

But *The Sunday Telegraph* understands that when Ms Truss entered the Commons to announce the single biggest economic intervention in British peacetime, she already knew that the monarch's

health was rapidly declining, and that her death was believed to be imminent. Mr Zahawi's update, shortly after midday, conveyed the latest in a series of messages from royal aides that morning.

Ms Truss was first informed of the state of Queen Elizabeth's health early on Thursday morning, when Simon Case, the Cabinet Secretary, interrupted a meeting to break the news. In Balmoral, concerned aides to the Queen had also raised the alarm with those around Prince Charles. The monarch's burgundy-liveried helicopter was dispatched from Windsor at 6.48am to collect the heir to the throne from Dumfries House in Ayrshire. Charles arrived at Balmoral by 10.30am.

Until Mr Case's intervention, Ms Truss's entire focus had been on the planned unveiling of her Energy Price Guarantee – the centrepiece of a monumental package of support designed to shield households from the worst of the cost of living crisis and launch her premiership with a bang.

The Prime Minister had finalised the details of the plan at 10.30pm the previous evening, following a series of meetings in the Cabinet Room, in which she had, according to an aide, gone through the package "line-by-line", grilling officials on the finer points.

By the time Ms Truss's convoy swept into Parliament from Downing Street 20 minutes later, at 10.50am, Mr Case was already beginning to ratchet



Liz Truss taking the oath and swearing allegiance to King Charles III in the Commons yesterday

the Downing Street and wider Whitehall machine into action. It was not just the Prime Minister who was new to her role – Ms Truss had begun her first day in office on Tuesday with a clear-out of No10 staff and her new crop of aides were only beginning the process of settling into their new roles.

Helpfully, Mr Case, as a former private secretary to Prince William, is steeped in royal protocol as well as the mechanics of Whitehall. The civil service machine showed how "incredibly effective" it can be at times like this, said one member of staff.

Ms Truss was in her Commons office, yards from the Commons chamber, making the final

preparations for her statement, when she was informed that Queen Elizabeth's death was believed to be "imminent". The news was greeted with "shock, immense sadness and incredulity", said one source.

The sequence of events helps to account for the sombre expression on Ms Truss's face as she entered the chamber shortly before 11.40am, when she exchanged brief words with Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Commons Speaker, before making her way to her place on the front bench. It also explains why Mr Zahawi's later intervention did not cause visible shock or surprise.

The delighted cheers of Tory MPs as Ms Truss made her way to her seat jarred with the Prime Minister's insight into events at Balmoral. But it was another 30 minutes before it started to become apparent to others in the chamber that something was amiss.

Ms Truss delivered the pre-prepared statement, revealing that typical household energy bills would be capped at £2,500 for the next two years – an announcement that was intended to be seismic but was about to be overshadowed by an event that would reverberate around the world.

Minutes after she had sat down and Sir Keir Starmer had begun his response to the statement, Mr Zahawi entered the chamber and squeezed on to the front bench, between Ms Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng, the new Chancellor. He began whispering into the Prime Minister's ear before handing her a note folded into a

'The statement was meant to be seismic but was about to be overshadowed by an event that would reverberate around the world'

square. A similar note was passed to Angela Rayner, Sir Keir's deputy, as the Labour leader continued his response.

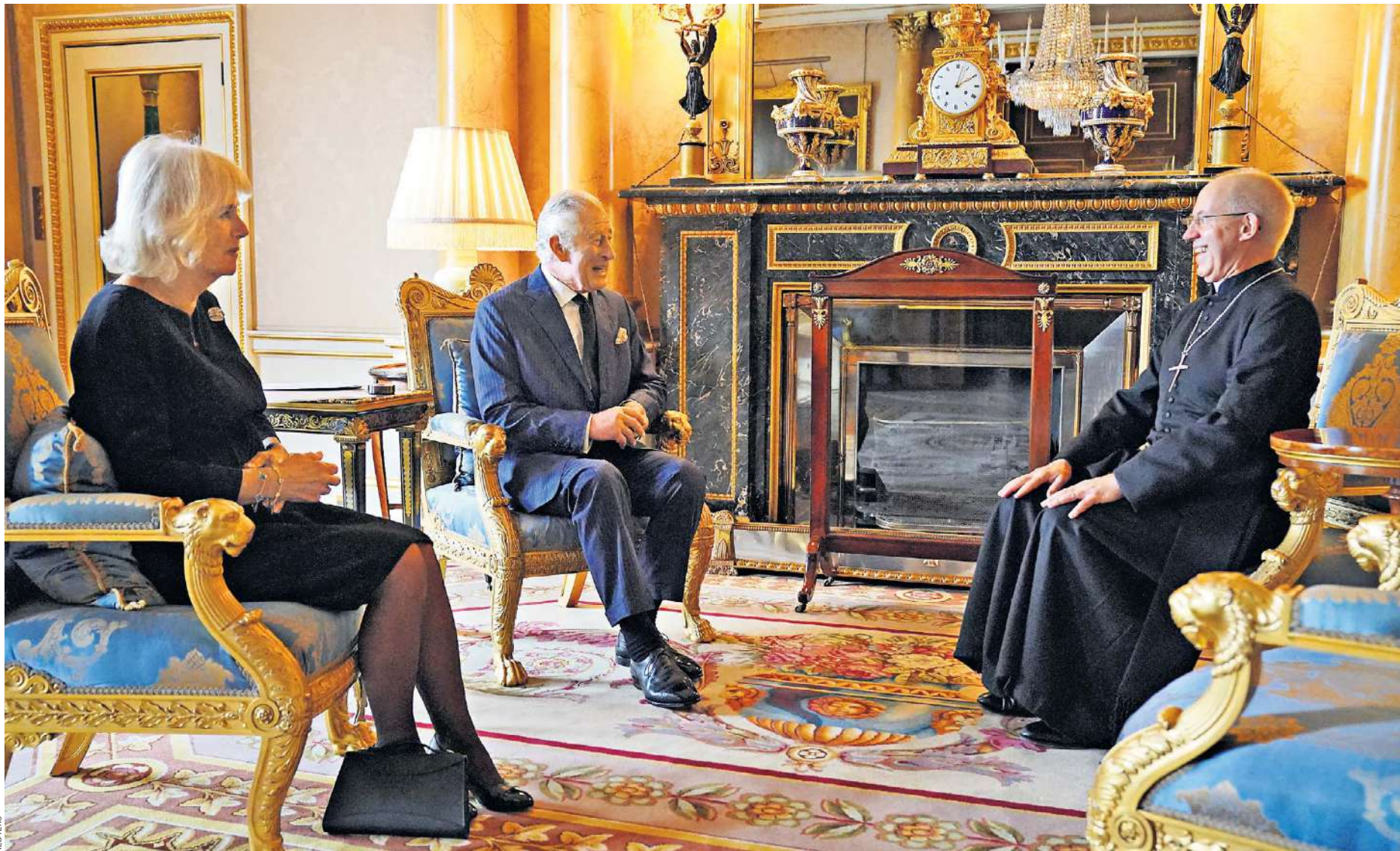
A quarter of an hour later, a statement from Buckingham Palace announced that the Queen's doctors were "concerned for Her Majesty's health and have recommended she remain under medical supervision". The statement added: "The Queen remains comfortable."

Ms Truss reconvened her staff to finalise a second speech that afternoon – a response to the unfathomable loss of the monarch with whom she had expected to attend weekly audiences as Prime Minister.

At 4.30pm she was in the Prime Minister's flat above 11 Downing Street when a telephone call came through from the Palace. It fell to Mr Case to pass on the message: the Queen had died. The forewarnings earlier in the day did little to diminish the magnitude of the news.

The next day, Ms Truss was escorted through Buckingham Palace for her first audience with the new King. Following an initial curtsy, the Prime Minister offered her "very, very sincere condolences" and the new monarch described how his mother's death was "the moment I'd been dreading – as I know a lot of people have".

Now, an aide suggested, the Prime Minister will turn to the task of helping to "guide the country through this extraordinary period over the next 10 days and beyond".



Fireside chat The King and Queen at an audience with Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the 1844 Room in Buckingham Palace yesterday.

Starmer avoids reference to God as he pledges loyalty to the King

By Will Hazell
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR KEIR STARMER pledged loyalty to King Charles III yesterday, choosing words that avoided referring to God.

The Labour leader joined Liz Truss and other senior MPs in vowing their allegiance to the King as Parliament met for a rare Saturday sitting, before the Cabinet was received by the Sovereign at Buckingham Palace for the first time.

During the swearing-in ceremony, MPs have an option of taking an oath or making a "solemn affirmation". Sir Keir, who is an atheist, was one of a number of MPs who opted for the affirmation.

He said: "I do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors according to law."

Later, in an audience with the King at Buckingham Palace, Sir Keir said: "I thought your speech yesterday was fantastic." The new monarch replied: "Oh, did you? That's encouraging."

Penny Mordaunt, the Leader of the House of Commons, who presided over yesterday's Accession Council as acting Lord President of the Council, also chose the affirmation.

If Sir Keir were to win the next election, he would be the first openly athe-



King Charles III speaks with Sir Keir Starmer, Sir Ed Davey and Ian Blackford, during an audience with opposition leaders

ist leader in British history. In an interview last year, he said he had a "lot of time and respect for faith".

"I am not of faith, I don't believe in God, but I can see the power of faith and the way it brings people together."

Ms Truss took the oath. Holding a Bible, she said: "I swear by almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God."

Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Speaker of the House of Commons, was the first to pledge his allegiance, followed by Sir Peter Bottomley, Father of the House, and Harriet Harman, Mother of the House, who also made the affirmation. Ms Truss was the fourth in line.

Ian Blackford, the SNP Westminster leader, Sir Ed Davey, the Liberal Democrat leader, Sir Jeffrey Donaldson of the DUP and Liz Saville Roberts, Plaid Cymru's Westminster leader, also took part.

MPs are sworn in after each general election. The oath and affirmation mean that members have already pledged their allegiance to the heirs and successors of the Queen and are not obliged to do it again following her death.

But the Speaker said all MPs who wished to undertake the ceremony would be able to do so at a later point.

After the ceremony, the House of Commons moved to its second day of commemorating the life of the Queen, with the Speaker confirming that 182 members had paid tribute on Friday.

A number of MPs told how the Queen had helped ease nerves at ceremonies.

Greg Clark, the former Conservative levelling up secretary, said that some ministers had found the experience of being sworn in as privy counsellors "so overwhelming" that "I understand that men have suddenly been moved to curtsy in front of Her Majesty".

Grant Shapps, the former transport secretary, recalled that during the "ancient and complex" process, he did not understand the meaning of the phrase "brush her hand" during the oath-taking.

She visited my wife in hospital after the IRA Grand Hotel bombing

Norman Tebbit



It was not until I was commissioned as a pilot officer in the Royal Air Force that I began to realise that my relationship to the monarch, then King George VI, as head of state, was different to that of my equivalents in other European countries.

They, on achieving commissioned rank swear their oath of loyalty to their government, whilst I here in this kingdom, I swore my oath of loyalty to the Sovereign.

During the Second World War when France surrendered and made peace with Hitler's Germany, her officer class owed their loyalty to the Petain/Laval government in Paris, and it was General de Gaulle who became a "rebellious traitor" as he fled to London to lead the Free French forces in 1940. Had Hitler's forces crossed the Channel and conquered the United Kingdom, the King would have fled to Canada to lead his kingdom in continuing the war against Germany.

Had he done so he would have taken with him his family, including his daughter Elizabeth (then a girl of 14).

At the time of the Coronation I was serving on No. 604 Squadron Royal Auxiliary Squadron at North Weald in Essex, where in the officers' mess we marked the day with a champagne dinner. It was 17 years later in 1970 that I was elected to Parliament as the Member for Epping (which embraced RAF North Weald) and was in my place in the Chamber of the Commons when she came to deliver the Queen's Speech and open that session of Parliament.

'She was a proud lady, but not full of pride, and had a wonderful, self-deprecating sense of humour'

In much later years, after the Sinn Féin IRA bombing of the Grand Hotel she visited my wife in hospital and told her that she "should be angry" at her plight and laughed when my wife replied that she needed all her energy just to stay alive. Later on a very warm day at a Buckingham Palace garden party she personally made room for her in the shade of the marquee.

In one of those glorious peculiarities of our constitution, the monarch is the Duke of Lancaster, the boundaries of that duchy being roughly those of the

present day County of Lancashire and I, as the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Trade, was responsible for its administration. I found that Queen Elizabeth had two concerns about the working of the duchy.

The first was over the procedure in fixing the salaries of the senior staff. I assigned to each of them a civil service grade and simply linked them to civil service pay rates. The second was more difficult. At that time the estates of residents of the duchy dying intestate were forfeit to the duchy, that is in effect to the monarch's private personal income. The Queen thought that was simply not right. I agreed and changed the rules to provide that such monies would be distributed to charities whose beneficiaries were resident within the duchy.

She was a proud lady, but not full of pride, and had a wonderful, self-deprecating sense of humour.

It was during the celebration of her Platinum Jubilee that we were treated to that marvellous moment when she had tea with Paddington Bear and produced a marmalade sandwich from her handbag, only for Paddington to produce another from under his hat. Good man that he is, it is hard to think of King Charles III matching that.

Daisy-May Adamson, seven, from Belfast, hugs a picture of Queen Elizabeth II on Crimea Street, off the capital's Shankill Road



William and Kate put off move to Windsor Castle for sake of the children

Gordon Rayner
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Royal couple want to minimise the impact on their young family after a very turbulent week

The Prince and Princess of Wales will delay moving into Windsor Castle in order to avoid more upheaval for their children, who had only arrived in a new house just a week ago, royal sources said.

The couple had hoped to bring a dose of normality to their three children's lives by living in the four-bedroom Adelaide Cottage on the Windsor estate and doing daily school runs to the nearby Lambrook School.

The death of Queen Elizabeth II meant Princes George and Louis and Princess Charlotte had moved house, had their first day at a new school, and lost their great-grandmother all in the space of six days last week.

There is an expectation that the Prince and Princess of Wales will eventually move into Windsor Castle or one of the larger houses on the estate, something which has become more

pressing with their change in status and seniority.

However, they have indicated to courtiers that they want to give their children a chance to settle into school and avoid any more upheaval for as long as possible, meaning that decisions on who lives in which property will be put on hold for now.

"They won't be starting from scratch when it comes to decisions on what happens to all of the royal properties," said one source, "because there have been lots of conversations about that over the years. But things can change when family dynamics are taken into account and they will want as little disruption to their children's lives as possible right now."

"They are very happy in Windsor and for the next decade or so everything will be pretty much dictated by what is right for the children."

Prince William must also decide on arrangements for his investiture as Prince of Wales, which is scheduled to happen after the King's Coronation and is likely to be next year.

He will become only the third Prince of Wales to be invested in Wales itself, and is said to favour a more low-key ceremony than the one at Caernarfon Castle for his father in 1969.

One possibility is that the investiture could take place at Cardiff Cathedral,

For the next decade or so everything will be pretty much dictated by what is right for the children'

and a decision must also be taken on the role of the Princess of Wales in the ceremony, as no Prince of Wales in recent history has inherited the title while married.

One source familiar with the discussions said: "They want to make sure that any ceremony is about celebrating Wales, rather than focusing on them as individuals. They have lived in Wales and they have spent a lot of time going back to Wales and they want to make sure that anything they do is in keeping with the wishes of the Welsh people."

The King spent 10 weeks learning the about Welsh language and culture at Aberystwyth University before his investiture, though he had plenty of time to prepare for the role because his investiture did not take place until 11 years after he was made Prince of Wales by his mother. Prince William is likely to want to brush up on his Welsh language skills now that he has taken on the title from his father.

When the then Duke and Duchess of Cambridge moved to Anglesey, where Prince William worked as an RAF Search and Rescue pilot for three years, they were determined to learn a little of the Welsh language, and particularly to make sure their pronunciation was up to scratch.

Ed Perkins, who was their communications secretary at the time

and is a Welshman, said: "He was very, very keen to get it right, so I taught him the Welsh National Anthem because he knew he would be singing it on various occasions. It's not an easy language to pronounce but he really wanted to get it right because, to him, it was a mark of respect to the Welsh people."

"I remember going to an agricultural show with him and he was greeting all the farmers by saying *bore da* (good morning) and their faces beamed."

Mr Perkins said he believed the Prince and Princess would "want to spend a little more time in Wales" from now on, as the King has done by spending time every year at Llwynyrmod, his home in Llandovery.

The Prince and Princess's public roles will also change as a result of their new status.

As he handed on his title of Prince of Wales to his eldest son, the King gave him what was, to all intents and purposes, a mission statement: "Bring the marginal to the centre ground."

The Prince and Princess of Wales have been given their instructions to carry out a royal version of levelling up by making frequent and high-profile visits to the people and the areas that have for many years been left behind.

In many respects, it will be a continuation of the work that the couple have already been doing: Prince William is a champion of mental health services and homelessness charities and Princess Catherine is heavily involved in early years education and anti-bullying campaigns.

However, the Prince and Princess are also likely to spend more time on official visits to some of the most economically depressed areas of the country, not only to lift awareness of their needs but to use their convening power to get communities, politicians and businesses together to find new ways of rejuvenating such places.

Strikingly, the only reference made by the King to the Prince and Princess's role when he confirmed their new titles in Friday's televised address to the nation was to say that: "With Catherine

'They want to make sure that any ceremony is about celebrating Wales, rather than focusing on them as individuals'

beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given."

The Princess will be the first to use the title since the death of the late Diana, Princess of Wales 25 years ago. The former Duchess of Cornwall was entitled to use it, but chose not to because of the sensitivities around her role in the break-up of the King's marriage to his former wife.

There was no mention of environmentalism or conservation, the issues that the King and his eldest son care most deeply about, which was just one of the multitude of subtle changes that have come with their changes of roles.

The then Duke and Duchess of Cambridge had already pivoted towards helping disadvantaged communities after the Covid pandemic struck, a decision that was taken and constantly reviewed in the regular briefings between father and son.

Royal sources pointed to a 2019 visit to Blackpool by the couple as a template for their future work.

"On that occasion they went to see first hand the crisis in Blackpool over the quality of housing for many of its residents," said one source.

"They were able to bring people together to seek solutions and then they privately followed up afterwards to see what progress was being made."

Unlike meetings convened by politicians, who might only be in their jobs fleetingly, members of the Royal family can set "homework" for community groups, businessmen and councils who will feel added pressure to show progress.

Because the Royal family is not party political, and will not be replaced by someone else, any taskforce that they convene to tackle a problem will know it will have to come up with results – or face the embarrassment of having to explain to the King or the Prince of Wales why nothing has been done.

Late Queen's lookalike bowing out but holding on to royal outfits

By Sunday Telegraph Reporter

A LOOKALIKE of Queen Elizabeth II has said she is quitting the job after 34 years "out of respect" following the monarch's death, but will still keep her outfits in memory of the sovereign.

Mary Reynolds, 89, who lives in Epping, Essex, became a lookalike in 1988 but was first told she resembled the late monarch when she was 17.

Some of her standout moments

include appearing in the 1990 comedy film *Bullseye* with the late Roger Moore, as well as an episode in the 25th anniversary series of *Doctor Who* in 1988. Ms Reynolds told the PA news agency she felt "lucky" to look like Queen Elizabeth, but that her days as a doppelganger are to come to an end.

"It's been a great privilege to look like her because I think she's so incredible," Ms Reynolds said.

"I've just moved home... and I've got



Queen Elizabeth II lookalike Mary Reynolds

two boxes full of hats and I've just found somewhere to put them and I thought: I'm not really going to need them any more. It makes you feel very sad."

She said she would probably keep her outfits of the Queen, though, as "they've been part of my life for so long", and said that she had two separate wardrobes for her normal and royal outfits, but would dip into "the Queen's" closet if she was going "somewhere special".

Despite never meeting Queen Eliza-

beth, Ms Reynolds said that she was present at several of her most important milestones. "I was in the Mall when she got married and I was just off of the Mall for her coronation," she said.

Recalling moments from her career, Ms Reynolds noted the excitement some members of the public would experience when they saw her.

"We went to Uganda for British Airways and Sheraton Hotels and they had a racing event on the shores of Lake Vic-

toria," she said. "I was walking around and an African woman dressed up in her robes was going 'ooh' every time she saw me because I was 'the Queen'."

She also remembered having to be rescued while filming for a movie in London, because "there were so many people wanting pictures".

"Wherever you went in the world, it was the Queen – not Queen Elizabeth, not the Queen of England. There will never be anyone like her."



Republican France mourns monarch

Tributes to the late Queen pour in from all corners of a country that did away with its own royalty in 1793

By Rebecca Rosman in Paris

FOR a country that wears its republicanism proudly on its sleeve, France has

been in a frenzy ever since the death of Queen Elizabeth II was announced on Thursday.

At the Bombardier pub, located just steps from the Pantheon in Paris's Latin Quarter, television screens usually dedicated to sport carried special documentary coverage about her legacy.

Sharing a pint with friends, 22-year-old Shanan Jos said he burst into tears after his mother delivered the news that

the Queen had died. "She's an icon," he said. "She wasn't part of our personal lives, but she was always in the background. She had a presence that we could all feel."

Despite strong anti-monarchist sentiment in a country that famously overthrew its own royal family in 1793, tributes to Queen Elizabeth have been pouring in from all quarters of France ever since the news broke at 6.30pm on

'She was a woman who had a knowledge of France, the French language'

Thursday. Emmanuel Macron, the French president, paid a highly emotive tribute to her, saying "we all feel an emptiness" over her death.

"With her, France and the United Kingdom shared not just an 'entente cordiale', but a warm, sincere loyal partnership," Mr Macron said in a three-minute video address in English on Friday. "To you, she was your Queen. To us, she was the Queen," he said.

Mr Macron ordered all flags to be held at half-staff and placed the Union flag on the porch of the Elysée Palace in Paris as a sign of mourning.

French newspapers dedicated their front pages on Friday to portraits of the Queen. The headline of *Le Parisien* read "We loved her so much".

Major television networks switched to special coverage dedicated to the Queen's memory and legacy and live-

'We are almost surprised to find such a deep well of grief in France'

Sad demise of safari hotel where a princess became a queen

By Will Brown AFRICA CORRESPONDENT and Patrick Meinhardt in Aberdares National Park, Kenya

Nature has slowly started to reclaim the old, dilapidated Treetops Hotel in Kenya, where a 25-year-old princess went up an ancient fig tree 70 years ago and came down as a queen.

However, the moment news of Queen Elizabeth II's death broke former staff at the hotel, which closed during the pandemic, returned to the

site to place white roses, light candles and lay out a condolence book. "Thank you, Ma'am, Rest in peace" read the only entry so far when *The Sunday Telegraph* visited yesterday, apparently added by a British Army captain based near the remote site.

"The Queen was like a mother to me," said Amos Ndegwa, a former bush ranger, who came to pay his respects to the late queen.

The 68-year-old's grandfather helped build Treetops and his father cooked a six-course meal for the then

Princess Elizabeth while she stayed there in February 1952.

"All the jobs I've had were because of her coming to Treetops," he said.

Princess Elizabeth was touring the Commonwealth and stayed with her husband Prince Philip at Treetops, then a three-bedroom cabin built in an ancient fig tree overlooking a watering hole. She filmed black rhinos, warthogs and a herd of elephants on her small handheld movie camera, then climbed a rickety stepladder to bed.

"She said she was very happy here," says Mr Ndegwa. "She made jokes and smiled about how fresh and tasty the local ingredients were."

Colonial authorities were brutally putting down Kenya's Mau Mau uprising at the time, and tension was high. Some feared the Princess could have been a target, so security was tight. Jim Corbett, a naturalist and big-game hunter, accompanied the royal couple and spent much of the night outside with a shotgun. Local men with spears were positioned around the grounds.



Amos Ndegwa, a former bush ranger, lights a candle in the lounge at a deserted Treetops

While they were there, Elizabeth's father, King George VI, died and she became Queen. "A young girl climbed into a tree one day a princess ... she climbed down from the tree next day a queen," Mr Corbett later wrote in the Treetops visitors' book.

In 1954, the original treehouse was attacked by Mau Mau rebels who

burnt it to the ground in a highly symbolic attack on British colonialism.

The only thing which survived was a metal plaque announcing to all comers that "In this 'Mgumu tree Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh spent the night of February 5th 1952. While here Princess Eliza-

beth succeeded to the throne through the death of her father King George the Sixth."

A few years later, on the other side of the watering hole, a much grander hotel was built that was capable of housing about 72 guests.

Queen Elizabeth II returned there in 1982. Her suite surveyed much of the park and Mount Kenya off in the distance and could be rented until recently for £180 a night.

However, these days, the oldest safari lodge in the country forms a forlorn spectacle.

It has been closed since the pandemic struck; its main visitors are now fearsome herds of buffalo, baboons and the occasional elephant.

The old watering holes are dry because of bad rain seasons and the old staff have been left without jobs.

Julia Kirigo, who used to work for the hotel, took a walk through the grounds before placing flowers by a wooden hotel sign.

"Nature is taking her back," she said.

A portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on an electronic billboard outside the Palms Hotel in Las Vegas, US, left; Samy Khalid, chief herald of Canada, reads a proclamation on the accession of King Charles III, as Justin Trudeau, the country's prime minister, listens with his son in Ottawa, right; and Kamala Harris, US vice president, and her husband sign a book of condolence in Washington, below



NIGEL HOWARD MEDIA, DAVE CHAN/AFR, JIM LOSCALZO/VOA, CNP

India's love for monarch part of her lifelong affinity with old colonies

Commentary

By Kapil Komireddi

Elizabeth II's father was the last Emperor of India. The longevity of her reign can make the past seem more remote than it is. Mahatma Gandhi is a fading memory in India. Princess Elizabeth, as she was, received a handmade wedding present from him in 1947.

When she acceded to the throne in 1952, India had become a democratic republic and the British Empire was on the road to dissolution.

Free India's founders, eager to convey their lack of hostility for the British after almost a century of often violent foreign rule that culminated in the subcontinent's savage partition, had invited Lord Mountbatten, the last British Viceroy, to stay on as the first governor-general. To the chagrin of those who remained ruinously captive to the past, the relationship between the former coloniser and formerly colonised was characterised by cordiality and warmth.

At Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953, Jawaharlal Nehru, the inaugural prime minister of India and the colossus of the post-colonial world, was an esteemed guest. When his carriage passed Piccadilly, it was loudly cheered by British crowds. That reception could not, however, compete with the hospitality lavished on the Queen on her maiden India tour in 1961.

A million people lined the roads of New Delhi to welcome her. Wherever she went – Calcutta, Bangalore, Bombay, Benares – hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of ordinary Indians went to greet her.

The warmth they exuded for the monarch of Britain, impossible to reconcile with the performative rage of the "anti-imperialists", was not so much for the institution she represented as the individual she appeared to be – a dutiful figure unburdened by pride or prejudice.

'Her highest cause was the Commonwealth, an ethnic, religious and cultural salmagundi of nations'

The Queen transcended the strictures imposed by convention and constitution to forge an abiding friendship with people in former colonies. Nelson Mandela, perhaps the only world leader who addressed her by her first name, christened her *Mottalepula* – the bringer of rain.

Beyond Britain, her greatest passion and her highest cause was the Commonwealth, an ethnic, religious, and cultural salmagundi of 56 nations and almost 2.5 billion people.

Membership to the Commonwealth is entirely voluntary. Those who decry it as an imperial relic not only do not comprehend its value to the world but cannot explain why it has survived at all. Zimbabwe – the most energetically "anti-imperialist" state in Africa – has been lobbying hard since 2018 to be readmitted into the Commonwealth.

The Queen grasped its importance; her prime ministers, accustomed to abasing themselves for the attention of the Americans, did not. The neglect of the Commonwealth must number among the most abysmal failures of a succession of British governments.

Perhaps the Queen's most significant achievement was to lead the Commonwealth into the 21st century and supervise its transformation into an association of equals. There could not be a more effective way to honour her memory than to revive and strengthen the Commonwealth – not as a platform for obscene fantasies of "Empire 2.0" but as a purposeful democratic bloc of equals.

The Commonwealth's origins did not prevent figures such as Nehru and Mandela – republican and anti-imperialist to their marrow – from appreciating its utility in deepening fraternity and fortifying the ideals of democracy. The end of the second Elizabethan Age is a fitting occasion to resolve to bolster the Commonwealth.

Kapil Komireddi is the author of *'Malevolent Republic: A Short History of the New India'*



as 'a presence we could all feel'

streamed the accession of King Charles III yesterday.

Other tributes were held around the country and flags were lowered over many public buildings.

In Nice, on the Mediterranean coast, a giant portrait of the late monarch was placed on the Promenade des Anglais waterfront.

"Today, Nice and France are crying with the United Kingdom," wrote local

MP Eric Ciotti from the Right-wing Republicans party.

The outpouring of support for the late Queen has prompted many to wonder why she has struck such a chord across the Channel.

"We are almost surprised to find such a deep well of grief in France," Lord Ricketts, who served as British Ambassador to France from 2012 to 2016, said. He said he was struck by the hun-

dreds of heartfelt messages he had received from French colleagues and friends sharing their grief over the Queen's death.

Reflecting on her legacy in France, he cited her love of French culture and language and her ability to remain above politics. The Queen spoke French fluently and first visited the country in 1948, aged 22, as a princess.

François Hollande, the former presi-

dent, echoed a similar sentiment. He was among those at the British Embassy in Paris yesterday with Julie Gayet, his actress wife, to pay his respects.

"She could be stern ... but also she had a lot of humanity. She was a woman who had a knowledge of France, the French language, which she spoke to perfection, while adding a slight accent to remind us of her origins," he said.

But above all, the French loved her

for her steadfast presence. "When you think about it, there's nothing permanent in the French system. Presidents come and go, there's one political battle to the next, but [the Queen] has been around as long as most people can remember," said Lord Ricketts.

Sonia Delesalle-Stolper, the head of the international service at *Libération* newspaper, agreed. "She always remained a constant," she said.

King's green activism wins favour among young Australians

By Roger Maynard in Sydney

YOUNG Australians like King Charles III because of his environmental activism and are more likely to support the British monarchy than their middle-aged compatriots despite a growing republican debate in the country.

"When I travel around our branches the meetings are generally swamped with students," Philip Benwell, national chairman of the Australian Monarchist League, told *The Sunday Telegraph*. "The 20-year-olds are well educated,

highly intelligent and a lot of them are monarchists."

He said the King's position on climate change was a major factor in attracting younger members, adding: "They support climate action and support him on what he's trying to do."

They are also too young to remember his divorce from the late Diana, Princess of Wales.

"It's encouraging the younger generation are not anti-Charles and of course they don't really know much about Diana, so they don't have hang-ups

about Camilla. They accept Camilla as a dutiful and loving wife to Charles."

A rising number of young Australians have indicated their support for the monarchy, according to a national poll released earlier this year.

The Ipsos survey found a 46 per cent level of support for the monarchy in the so-called Generation Z demographic, aged up to 25, while only 36 per cent of those aged between 30 to 49 favoured keeping the monarchy.

That flies in the face of a trend towards republicanism in the Australian government. Anthony Albanese, the prime minister and a republican, this week agreed it was not a time to dwell on the republican debate.

He led parliamentary and diplomatic figures in laying a wreath for the late Queen Elizabeth II at Parliament House and said she had been an "absolute inspiration".

But his views are clear. Two years ago, he spoke of "the need for us to have an Australian head of state ... the need to stand on our own two feet".

That may face resistance from younger Australians. Alessandro Rosini, 21, acting chairman of the league's youth branch in the state of Victoria, said he was constantly receiving messages from young people wanting to become involved. "I attribute that to the fact that young people see our system of

'The 20-year-olds I meet support climate action and support King Charles on what he is trying to do'

constitutional monarchy as something that provides stability and continuity," he explained.

The row over republicanism is likely to grow in the coming weeks. Outside New South Wales's government house, which overlooks Sydney Harbour, Wendy Fitzgerald, a member of the public, acknowledged it was a turning point for Australia. "There was a push towards a republic, but with the [late]

Queen no one would have made that change," she said. "Now – maybe."

Most Australians have chosen to avoid commenting on the issue so soon after the death of the late monarch.

Adam Bandt, the Australian Greens party leader, was accused of being disrespectful after he said on Friday: "Now Australia must move forward. We need to become a republic."

Even the Australian Republican Movement is keeping a low profile, saying it is more fitting for Australians "to take some time to reflect on the life and contribution of Queen Elizabeth II and pay appropriate respect to that".

For now, the country is mourning the late Queen – and celebrating the new King.

Travel agencies have been booking up flights for people heading to the UK for the funeral, while New South Wales put on free public transport to enable people to travel to Sydney to witness the "historic proclamation of His Majesty the King" outside Parliament House.

Outcry at bikini tribute by Gary Lineker's brother

By Jack Leather

GARY LINEKER'S brother Wayne held a bizarre tribute to Queen Elizabeth II at his nightclub in Ibiza involving bikini-clad women wearing bearskins and mock military outfits as crowds sang *God Save the Queen*.

The ceremony at O Beach Ibiza began when six women, dressed to mimic the King's Guard regiment, marched slowly up to the stage and stood in front of the crowd. Alongside them on stage was co-owner Tony Truman. He said: "Myself and Wayne and the other business partners are all British businessmen – and we could not let this day go by without speaking about events." The ceremony was in contrast to the sombre tribute by Wayne's brother, Gary, who said: "Such a terribly sad day."

Computer checks to curb home working by civil service

By Charles Hymas
HOME AFFAIRS EDITOR

CABINET OFFICE staff are to have their computers monitored to ensure they go into the office in a crackdown on working from home.

Civil servants have been told that their “compliance” with office working will be checked through their use of work computers.

They are expected to attend the office four days a week as part of a cross-Whitehall attempt to end the work from home culture after Covid.

The “efficiency” drive has been led

by Jacob Rees-Mogg, the Cabinet Office minister, who has switched to business and energy. A Cabinet Office spokesman said ministers and officials had been clear they wanted attendance “back at pre-pandemic levels”.

Mark Serwotka, general secretary of the PCS civil service union, said: “This is a worrying Big Brother-style development that we fear could be used to victimise our members.

“We hoped the bogus argument about having to be in the office to do the job had been put to bed. So to resurrect it when our members are worried about the cost of living crisis, is an unneces-

sary provocation.” The move has been revealed in guidance seen by *The Sunday Telegraph* titled “Privacy notice for Cabinet Office Official IT platform”.

A section added on Sept 5 said staff data would be “processed to compile anonymised office occupancy statistics and report on numbers of staff attending Cabinet Office locations, in order to monitor overall compliance to office working”.

Occupancy in the August summer holiday period fell to a low of 42 per cent in the Cabinet Office, which employs more than 2,700 staff. By Aug 29, it was 66 per cent, similar to

the first week of August. Attendance at the Foreign Office was the lowest, at 30-39 per cent, in August, followed by the Department for Education, the Home Office and Mr Rees-Mogg’s business and energy department, at about 50 per cent.

The Ministry of Defence was the busiest, at 85 per cent, at the end of August.

The Cabinet Office said the monitoring of “Wi-Fi and/or computer log-ins” was one of four methods that department bosses could use to check on the “daily average number of employees” in the office.

The three others are swipe pass

entry, space or desk booking systems or a manual head count.

The Cabinet Office said it was for departments to determine the most appropriate method of collection.

“Work is under way to develop a common methodology for monitoring occupancy that provides a daily and historic trend record of office occupancy levels for a building,” said a spokesman.

Departments are expected to work towards “full capacity” in the office, which is defined as a full office rather than all employees in work every day, since most departments now have more staff than desks.

Truss moves out of No10 ‘den’ to signal a more open approach

PM is using Cabinet Room as her study in a move seen as a shift away from the Downing Street machine

By Edward Malnick
SUNDAY POLITICAL EDITOR

LIZ TRUSS has made the Cabinet Room her official study – moving out of the so-called “den” chosen by Sir Tony Blair as the prime minister’s office 25 years ago.

The Sunday Telegraph understands that, as part of a reorganisation of 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister has chosen to work at the Cabinet table, where she has begun meeting aides and ministers as well as chairing formal Cabinet meetings.

The move harks back to an approach that began with Robert Walpole, the first prime minister, and was last adopted by Sir John Major.

It comes after Ms Truss said she believed No10 had become “a bit too presidential”, and is part of a slimming-down of the Downing Street operation.

During the Conservative leadership campaign, Ms Truss promised a return

Cabinet Room which Sir Tony, David Cameron, Theresa May and Boris Johnson used as their study.

The arrangement was interrupted during Gordon Brown’s premiership. When the former chancellor took over from Sir Tony, he opted instead to use a large room in 12 Downing Street as a “war room”, in which he sat surrounded by his key advisers and officials.

Ms Truss prepared last week’s energy rescue package from the Cabinet Room on Tuesday and Wednesday, with key officials, aides and ministers.

The measures were signed off following a late-night meeting around the Cabinet table on Wednesday.

Sir Anthony pointed out that by working from the Cabinet Room, Ms Truss would become more accessible to ministers and officials than her predecessors.

Unlike the office that was used by Mr Johnson, the Cabinet Room has direct access to the corridor frequented by her top team.

And unlike “the den”, the Cabinet Room, which overlooks the No10 garden, has large windows and plenty of natural light.

Sir Anthony said of Ms Truss’s move: “She is using the room that exemplified Cabinet government and which isn’t a No10 enclave.

“Symbolically, it can be seen as a move away from sofa government and the large No10 machine keeping the Prime Minister away from the Cabinet and the party.

“Back towards a sense of Cabinet government and the Cabinet doing the work rather than No10 man-marking everybody and not letting people get on and do the work.”

Roy Jenkins, a former Labour home secretary, once noted that, when Winston Churchill was chancellor in the 1930s, he and Stanley Baldwin saw each other frequently because the prime minister worked in the Cabinet Room and “it became the Chancellor’s habit to interrupt his morning procession to work for a few minutes of Cabinet Room conversation with the Prime Minister.

“It was a habit which helped to avoid any major personal quarrels between them until after the demise of the Government.”

‘It can be seen as a move back to the Cabinet doing the work rather than No10 man-marking everybody’

to Cabinet government, stating: “We do need Cabinet ministers to have both the authority and the responsibility for what they’re delivering.”

Sir Anthony Seldon, the historian, said the shake-up followed a tradition of prime ministers “alighting on different rooms” in which to base their offices.

“It is and always has been two domestic houses knocked together with corridors to join them, so there is no office,” he said.

“Thatcher liked to use the first floor study, now called the Thatcher Room.

“Lloyd George liked to work from the small Soane Dining Room, but John Major liked to work from the Cabinet Room.”

No10 staff will now be based in the so-called “den” – the room adjoining the



Darius Campbell Danesh at the Wireless Festival in Hyde Park, London, in 2010. The songwriter appeared on the first ‘Pop Idol’ in 2001

Singer suffocated after inhaling painkiller

FORMER *Pop Idol* star Darius Campbell Danesh died from “inhalation of chloroethane”, US authorities have confirmed.

The Glasgow-born singer and actor was found dead in his flat in Rochester, Minnesota, last month.

Post mortem examination papers obtained by the PA news agency listed “toxic effects of chloroethane” as well as “suffocation” as contributing to his death.

The death was ruled an accident by the Southern Minnesota regional medi-

cal examiner’s office. The 41-year-old made his first bid for fame in the ITV reality show *Popstars* in 2001 and also appeared on the first *Pop Idol*, which was won by Will Young.

After *Pop Idol*, Campbell Danesh turned down Simon Cowell’s offer of a record deal and signed with Steve Lilly-white, whose band credits include U2.

Mr Cowell, 62, said in a statement: “I first saw Darius on television over 20 years ago and I got to know him really

well. He was charismatic, funny and just a great person to be with. My heart goes out to his family and friends.”

A family statement said: “Darius’s death was an accident caused by chloroethane, which is used to treat pain, and that tragically led to respiratory arrest.

“Darius was suffering from chronic neck pain following a car accident in 2010.

“We would like to thank everyone for their love and kindness.”

Unmarried couples stung by ‘confusing inheritance laws’

By Gabriella Swerling
SOCIAL AFFAIRS EDITOR

INHERITANCE claims from unmarried couples have surged, as lawyers blame the common-law spouse “myth” for people wrongly assuming they will inherit assets.

Couples who have lived together for some time may believe the widely held misconception that they become “common-law spouses”, a term that is frequently used but has no legal recognition.

Many believe, incorrectly, that they automatically acquire the same legal status as a married couple but when unmarried couples separate, or one of them dies, they are not afforded the same rights as married couples.

The number of legal actions brought by individuals wanting a share of estates left by loved ones and relatives has increased fourfold over the last 15 years, according to data published by the Ministry of Justice.

In 2007, there were 43 inheritance claims, but by 2020, this figure had risen to 192 and remained high at 165 the year after.

Heather Roberts, a partner at the law firm Bexley Beaumont, said that many unmarried men and women were simply unaware that they would have to make a claim to be entitled to assets left by their partners.

She said: “The size of this increase

might seem surprising but we must remember that we have seen further growth in the number of couples who live together without marrying.

“The value of estates has also increased, principally due to a tremendous rise in house prices across the UK. Despite both of those things, many individuals are still not undertaking any financial planning, such as making a will, to make provision for their loved ones.

“In the case of some of my clients, that has been because they assumed

‘Couples that live together for several years are not common-law spouses and won’t have rights to assets’

that they would simply inherit their partners’ assets whereas, in fact, they are not automatically entitled to anything.”

She added: “They only become aware that the idea of common-law spouse is just a myth when realising that they actually need to make a claim in order to stand a chance of inheriting anything at all. It is a reality which often compounds the shock and distress of having lost a loved one, yet can be avoided so relatively easily by making a will.”

She said that the number of claims had increased fourfold.

NEWS BULLETIN

Further arrest over killing of Olivia, nine

A 37-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the murder of nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel.

Merseyside Police said the man, from the West Derby area of Liverpool, was arrested on Friday night on suspicion of assisting an offender and remains in custody while being questioned by detectives.

The force said: “The investigation into Olivia’s murder is ongoing and we continue to appeal for people with information to come forward to assist us in bringing those responsible to justice.”

It comes after two arrests were made in West Derby in connection with the killing on Thursday.

Manchester IRA bomb suspect released

A man arrested over the Manchester city centre bombing 26 years ago has been released without charge, Greater Manchester Police said.

The force arrested the man on Thursday at Birmingham Airport on suspicion of terror offences.

His arrest was in connection with inquiries into the IRA bomb detonation in Manchester city centre on June 15 1996. The 3,300lb bomb caused massive damage and more than 200 injuries, but no fatalities. It was the biggest bomb detonated in Great Britain since the Second World War.

Yesterday the police said the man had been released without charge on Friday night.

Study finds air pollution can cause lung cancer

Air pollution causes lung cancer, scientists have said, in a discovery that could lead to new treatments.

Researchers from the Francis Crick Institute and University College London have identified the mechanism by which polluting fumes trigger tumours. Air pollution activates existing mutations, rather than creates them, they found. It causes inflammation in the lungs, a chemical signal is released, the damaged cells harbouring mutations are activated and a tumour forms.

The study, which was funded by Cancer Research UK, was presented to the European Society for Medical Oncology.

Climate activists claim to have hit milk supplies

Campaigners have claimed that their efforts to disrupt dairy distribution facilities have led to supermarket shelves being left empty of milk in north London.

Climate activist group Animal Rebellion said it had been blocking and occupying sites and damaging milk trucks over five days. It paused the action in response to the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The protesters want to see a transition to plant-based alternatives from dairy products.

Animal Rebellion said shortages of fresh milk in north London were due to its actions at Arla Food’s depot in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

Family of man shot dead by police criticise delay

The family of Chris Kaba, who was shot dead by an armed Metropolitan Police officer in south London on Monday, said the firearms officer involved should be “immediately suspended”.

The demand came as hundreds of demonstrators gathered in central London to protest against the fatal shooting of the 24-year-old, who was due to become a father in months.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct has launched a homicide investigation into the incident involving the Metropolitan Police in Streatham Hill, but the family said they were “shocked” the decision to do so was made only on Friday.

Double murder suspect critically ill in hospital

A 46-year-old man is in custody in hospital on suspicion of murder after a mother, aged 44, and her 12-year-old daughter were found dead at their home in the village of Great Waldingfield in Suffolk.

The man, who was known to the pair, was found with serious injuries in the property at the same time on Thursday morning and was arrested before being airlifted to hospital, where he was reported to be in critical but stable condition.

Suffolk Constabulary said because there had been previous, although not recent, contact with those involved, they had referred the matter to the Independent Office for Police Conduct.

The Sunday Telegraph

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The Telegraph, 111 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0DT

Church removes ‘offensive’ plaque to slaver

A new memorial will be placed without inscription praising ‘humanity’ of man who ended Jamaica revolt

By Daniel Capurro SENIOR REPORTER

A PARISH church is to remove an “offensive” memorial plaque to a plantation owner who put down a major slave revolt, but will replace it with a new one. The memorial at St Peter’s Church, Dorchester, is dedicated to Dr John Gordon, who helped put down the uprising, known as Tacky’s War, in Jamaica in 1760. The inscription reads:

“He was signally instrumental in quelling a dangerous rebellion in the island, in the year 1760. A large body of negroes whom his bravery had repulsed finally yielding to their confidence in his humanity.” The act of humanity referred to in the inscription, which also claims Gordon was held in “universal esteem” in Jamaica, was his decision to sell the surrendering slaves to plantations on other Caribbean islands. Parishioners received permission from the consistory court of the Diocese of Salisbury to remove the plaque earlier this month, on the condition that a replacement be erected without the offending inscription. A stonemason

will assess the plaque tomorrow and set out a timetable for its replacement. The original will then be put on display at the neighbouring county museum. Val Potter, 71, a church warden at St Peter’s, said the memorial was off-putting to visitors and the only negative comments ever left in the visitor book were in reference to it. Asked why, if Gordon’s actions were so offensive, there should be any memorial, she said: “We agreed with the general principle that every monument to everybody is a monument to a flawed human being. Nobody is contending the names and dates for this individual, it’s his actions that are offensive.” The chancellor in the case, Ruth

Arlow, agreed with that in her ruling, noting the congregation did not want to stop commemorating Gordon, but the memorial’s wording was interfering with the church’s religious work. “This is a church with a strong tradition for and calling to hospitality; which strives to welcome and include all. I accept that the retention of the memorial presents a significant barrier to the fulfilment of that calling,” she wrote. When considering requests to alter a church building, chancellors are required to consider the so-called Duffield guidelines. Its five questions ask if proposed changes would damage the special historic or architectural fabric of a church and whether the benefits

will outweigh the harm. Historic England opposed the removal of the plaque, and argued for a “retain and explain” approach of having an information panel placed in the church. Ms Potter said that was considered but rejected. The Ancient Monuments Society agreed that the inscription made this a special case and that the museum was a better place to have the original memorial. However, Robert Tombs, a Cambridge historian and member of the History Reclaimed campaign group, said removing the memorial seemed like “obliterating history”. “Wouldn’t it be better to have a reminder of dark episodes in history and the participation in them of people

regarded as virtuous in their time,” he asked. Ms Potter said that the congregation had been considering the removal of the plaque for several years, well before the Black Lives Matter movement erupted in 2020. “It’s not only ethnic-minority people that find it offensive. Some of our elderly white congregation find it deeply offensive,” she said. “We have a mission and a vision to be a welcoming and inclusive church and the message in this very explicitly worded monument contradicts that. “It undermines our message of welcome and everybody being made equally in the image of God.”

ROH accused of ‘whitewash’ over ‘Madama Butterfly’ cast

By Craig Simpson

THE Royal Opera House has been accused of “whitewashing” *Madama Butterfly*, despite investing in making its production culturally sensitive. The venue in London’s Covent Garden embarked on a year-long consultation to ensure that Puccini’s 1904 opera, concerning a Japanese geisha exploited by an American officer, was as inoffensive and non-stereotyping as possible. Yet concerns have been raised about the diversity of the cast which, despite attempts to be culturally and historically accurate, does not include any East Asian performers in key roles. The acting advocacy group Theatre East and South East Asians in Theatre and on Screen (BESEAS) has taken issue with the production which has a rotat-

‘For an opera set in Japan to have so few East and South East Asian [players] on stage is simply unacceptable’

ing cast, with the main role of Cio-Cio-san, or “Butterfly”, played by Maria Agresta, an Italian, and Lianna Haroutounian, an Armenian. The group has argued that casting a non-white person as a traditionally white character “can be progressive”, but doing the reverse “is whitewashing”. It said: “For an opera set in Japan to have so few ESEAs (East and South East Asians) on stage is simply unacceptable.” The concerns come after a lengthy process of consultation and a review of choreography, costumes and make-up. The make-up and costumes were altered to ensure the representation of 19th-century Japan was not stereotypical and orientalist. Oliver Mears, director of The Royal Opera, told *The Stage*: “To cast singers in roles based only on their ethnicity can be limiting and reductive. We are committed to colour-conscious casting, an approach that considers the nuance required to authentically and respectfully portray each and every story.”



Jump the queue Bella Hadid wore a jumpsuit from Fendi’s spring/summer 2023 collection on the catwalk at New York Fashion Week yesterday.

‘Totalitarian’ net zero plan to restrict key city roads at peak times

By Catherine Lough

PLANS to limit drivers from using Oxford’s roads as part of the council’s net zero agenda have been branded “totalitarian” by locals. Cars would be banned from driving without a permit at peak times on six roads across Oxfordshire under a scheme to be piloted next summer. Under the proposals, put forward by Oxfordshire county council, all other vehicles – such as motorcycles and HGVs – would be allowed at all times. It

wants to introduce six traffic filters to operate for seven days a week from 7am until 7pm, except those in Marston Ferry Road and Hollow Way, which would not operate on Sundays. “Residents in Oxford and some areas just outside the city will be able to apply for a permit to drive through the traffic filters for up to 100 days per year,” according to the council. The council said the traffic filters are intended to make bus journeys faster, and walking and cycling safer, with the scheme enforced through number-

plate recognition. A consultation on the issue began on Sept 5 but the proposals have been met with consternation from residents and businesses. Hotelier Jeremy Mogford, who chairs the Oxford High Street Association, told the *Oxford Mail* that there were a “lot of different emotions flying around” regarding low-traffic neighbourhoods. “These new measures will bring additional costs, which will chip away at people’s ability to pay their bills and costs,” he added. “I don’t think these measures are necessary – it’s the whole

100

Number of days per year that residents of the Oxford area will be able to apply for a permit to drive through the traffic filters

infrastructure at risk, including delivery drivers and builders.” He said residents were “being dictated to by councillors who don’t live here”. Author Richard Wellings also spoke

out against the scheme. “As part of the elite’s Great Reset ‘Build Back Worse’ agenda, the war on motorists is entering a much nastier, totalitarian phase”, he wrote on social media. A spokesman for the council said: “Traffic filters are designed to reduce traffic, make bus journeys faster and make walking and cycling safer. “When they are operating, private cars will not be allowed through the traffic filters without a permit. All other vehicles will be allowed at all times. “Exemptions will be available for

blue badge holders, professional and non-professional carers and heavy goods vehicles. “Residents living in Oxford and surrounding areas will be able to apply for a permit to drive through the traffic filters for up to 100 days per year,” they said. They added that the traffic filters would be introduced as part of a trial and, if they are then approved by the county council, a further consultation would take place during the trial period for a minimum of six months.

CofE court rules rainbow bench must be repainted

By Gabriella Swerling RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS EDITOR

A CHURCH court has ordered a rainbow NHS bench to be repainted to protect the “thoughts, feelings and emotions of all users of the churchyard”. The bench was introduced into the Church of Moreton Morrell, also known as the Church of the Holy Cross in the Mid-Fosse Parishes, Warwickshire, in 2002 to mark Queen Elizabeth II’s Golden Jubilee. In June 2021, the dark brown bench was repainted in rainbow colours by an unidentified group of people intending to show support for the NHS during the pandemic. But, according to the consistory court ruling, this decision was taken “without seeking consent from the priest-in-charge or the parochial church council, let alone from this court” and caused division in the parish.

The case was heard before Glyn Samuel, chancellor of the consistory court, sitting in the Diocese of Coventry, who ruled that not only must the bench be repainted, but also gave a deadline. The case arose when the Rev Lynda Lilley, the priest-in-charge of the Mid-Fosse parishes, applied for retrospective permission to allow the rainbow bench to stand. In his written ruling, Mr Samuel said that two people had objected to the bench, claiming it was “inappropriate” for mourners “to be faced with an emotive symbol when respective neutrality in such sacred surroundings is a reasonable sign of respect”. In contrast, there were “a number of messages in support” of it, including from one 12-year-old child. “I have read all the messages with care,” he said, “but clearly I must have regard to the situation in law, without being swayed by the volume of messages in support or in opposition. It is not a situation where he (or she) who shouts longest and loudest will win through.” He said the issue centred around the fact that the bench was in consecrated church grounds, had a place of prominence, and that the decision had been taken without permission. Furthermore, no one had considered the question: “Would the multi-coloured bench convey the same message in 10 years’ time as it is intended to convey now?” Despite the majority of the community being in support of the bench, Mr Samuel said he had to consider “the legal situation and also the thoughts, feelings and emotions of all users of the churchyard, not just those who support the significant change that was carried out without permission.” He ordered the bench to be painted in its original brown by tomorrow.



SOLENT NEWS & PHOTO AGENCY

In her honour A gun salute and two-minute silence for Queen Elizabeth II was observed at the WCT Welsh Game Fair at Vaynol Hall in Gwynedd. The three-day outdoor event is a showcase of country pursuits in Wales.

Need to budget better drives shoppers back to hard cash

By Rachel Mortimer PERSONAL FINANCE REPORTER

TWO thirds of households used a cash machine this summer as the cost of living crisis drove shoppers back to hard cash to help them budget. Free-to-use cash machines are in rapid decline as businesses are increas-

ingly refusing to accept notes and coins, despite growing demand. Analysis of 146,000 people by the money app Snoop found that the typical shopper used a cash machine five times between May and July this year, withdrawing £60 on average. Separate research by the Post Office showed in a single week in mid-August

its customers withdrew £183million in cash, an 18 per cent rise on 2021. High demand for cash contradicts predictions by banks that contactless spending will make notes and coins obsolete over the next decade. Scott Mowbray, of Snoop, said: “Some of our customers only feel truly in command of their finances when they can

see, touch and spend physical money. “With prices rising as fast as they are now, and with so many people deeply worried about how they’ll cope financially, being able to get hold of real cash matters more than ever,” he said. Shoppers are struggling to access cash, with almost 70 per cent of free-to-use machines on the brink of closure.

Blitz on Kharkiv sends Russians into retreat

Surprise attack by Ukraine claws back large tracts of territory as reports suggest Donetsk airport retaken

By Campbell MacDiarmid in Hrakove, Ukraine

A UNION flag patch shone brightly on the man's soiled clothing as his corpse was hauled from the mud and laid on top of a leopard print blanket on a fine autumn afternoon just outside Kharkiv. Resident Sergiy Lutsay, 40, told Ukrainian police he had been able to examine the corpse – a civilian to judge from his shoes and clothing – when Russian soldiers forced him to bury it and another body in March. While the identity of the bodies remains a mystery, Kharkiv police chief Volodymyr Tymoshenko suspected war crimes. The men bore signs of torture and the ears of at least one had been severed, he said, though this was not obvious given the advanced state of decay. The men's fate in an undistinguished hamlet called Hrakove might have remained an anonymous tragedy had their burial site not been uncovered during a surprise lightning offensive this week that may prove to be a major moment in the war. This week has seen Ukrainian forces break a months-long stalemate on one of the war's principal front lines. Hrak-

ove, a cluster of war-damaged houses around a church at a crossroads, is part of a wide swathe of Kharkiv region in the north-east that Ukrainian forces have freed from Russian occupation. It includes the strategically significant cities of Izyum and Kupyansk. Moscow yesterday acknowledged withdrawing from Izyum, a retreat that marks Russia's biggest loss of territory since it was forced to abandon the assault on the capital, Kyiv, in March. Residents in Russian-controlled parts of the Kharkiv region have been advised to escape to Russia, according to state-run news agency Tass. The rapid advance meant reporters taken on an organised trip to Hrakove on Friday, two days after its liberation, were shown an area already far behind front lines. Ukrainian forces had advanced a further 40 miles eastwards into Kupyansk, Mr Tymoshenko said. By yesterday, the counteroffensive had turned into a widespread rout of Russian forces, leaving Ukrainians ecstatic, pro-Russian commentators despondent and analysts and journalists struggling to keep up. Nearly 1,000 square miles of territory had been recaptured by Friday, according to the Institute for the Study of War, a figure that does not take into account Izyum and Kupyansk. There were also reports of heavy fighting around nearby Lyman and Lysychansk, in the north of the Donbas. Denis Pushilin, head of the pro-Rus-



Ukraine's flag is triumphantly raised by its troops in Kupyansk, a key supply point that the Russians have reportedly lost

sian separatist Donetsk People's Republic, said the situation in Lyman was "very difficult" and there was also fighting in "a number of other localities", particularly in the north of the region. There were also reports that Ukrainian forces had retaken Donetsk airport, another potentially massive victory if confirmed. Many details remained hazy amid a strict media blackout. Occasional official announcements are supplemented by triumphant videos online showing Ukrainian soldiers hoisting flags in "de-

occupied" towns and being greeted by grateful residents. In Moscow's first official acknowledgement of the scale of the defeat, Russia's defence ministry announced it was "regrouping" yesterday. "To achieve the goals of the special military operation to liberate Donbas, a decision was made to regroup Russian troops stationed in the Balakliya and Izyum regions, to bolster efforts along the Donetsk front," Russia's defence ministry said in a statement. "A number of distraction and distracting activities were carried out to disguise the real actions of the troops," it added, in comments that were widely mocked online. Liberating Izyum in particular represents a major and unexpected victory for Ukrainian forces. "It's a strategic point for both sides," Izyum councillor Maxim Strelnyk said this week. He called his city "the gate to the Donbas" and the ongoing Ukrainian operation to liberate it as "genius". Hora Kremenets, a high point on the right bank of the Siverskyi Donets river south of Izyum, offers a commanding field of fire, he said. "Whoever holds this point can control the surrounding area for 60 kilometres," he added. The liberation of nearby Kupyansk, where Ukrainian soldiers uploaded photos of themselves raising their flag, is also important as it gives Kyiv control over railway lines that Russia had used to supply its forces in eastern Ukraine. The blitzkrieg appears to have caught

'War is the art of lies. Our forces drew the other side out, then struck in another place'

Russian forces unprepared after they moved troops down to reinforce Kher-son in response to a widely telegraphed Ukrainian counteroffensive in the south. "It's well known that war is the art of lies," Mr Strelnyk said. "Our forces managed to fool the other side, we drew them out in one direction and then struck in another place." "Russian forces were probably taken by surprise," the Ministry of Defence in London said yesterday. "The sector was only lightly held." Moscow rushed reinforcements into the breach, including, reportedly, using helicopters to fly troops and armoured vehicles into Izyum and Kupyansk. The speed of the Ukrainian advance left the Kremlin's media reeling. "The news is troubling," television anchor Olga Skabeyeva said, blaming the advance on Western support to Ukraine and saying troops used in the offensive had been trained in Britain. Russia responded to the offensive with a series of air strikes on Kharkiv and surrounding towns yesterday and earlier in the week. Already some Ukrainian civilians are celebrating, though. Mr Lutsay, who was forced to bury bodies by the Russian occupiers in Hrakove, prepared a celebratory meal on Friday in the basement below his destroyed apartment where he and his elderly father had sheltered for four months. "Of course we're happy," he said. "What other reaction could we have?"



Sweden's 'good liberals' ready to put far-Right party in power

By Johan Anderberg in Stockholm

IN THE southern Swedish city of Malmö, across the bridge from the Danish capital Copenhagen, people have grown accustomed to reports about gang-related shootings. But on a recent Friday afternoon, weeks before tomorrow's parliamentary elections, the violence came a bit too close. At the Emporia shopping mall, a 15-year-old shot a man dead and injured a woman in front of families doing their weekend shopping. "I just entered some kind of survival mode and tried to get out as fast as possible," says Louise Heegaard, a 40-year old mother of two who witnessed the shooting. "But when I realised I wasn't going to die, the shock arrived and I became both afraid and sad." The event made her rethink her politics ahead of today's national election. "I was so angry afterwards, to think that so many innocent people [would] experience something like that. I voted exclusively based on this," she said. A surge in violent gang crime is threatening to unseat the governing Left-wing Social Democrats after eight years in power as voters turn to Right-wing parties to address their concerns over law and order. The issue has become one of the most

important for many, according to polls, an unusual development in a largely safe country where residents are usually more concerned with employment, education and health care. But their concerns are not baseless. So far in 2022, the Swedish police have registered 47 killings and 273 shootings for this country of 10 million, putting this year on track to be the deadliest in a series of violent years.

47

The number of killings in Sweden so far this year. There have also been 273 shootings in the country of 10 million

"It is a unique situation for a wealthy European nation such as Sweden," says Manne Gerell, an associate professor of criminology at Malmö University. "Two decades ago, Sweden had about the same number of shootings per capita as England and Wales, but now Sweden's rates are many times higher." Researchers believe the trend is being driven by immigration, which has been exceptionally high over the last decade and a half, creating pockets of poverty that have proven fertile recruit-

ing grounds for criminal gangs. It has given a boost to the Right-wing opposition, consisting of three conservative and centre-Right parties. They recently welcomed the far-Right Sweden Democrats into their alliance, a party with its roots in racist and neo-Nazi organisations. Voters generally think they have the best policy proposals on crime, and on the related migration issue, almost a third of Swedes think the Sweden Democrats have the best policy. The Social Democrats, led by Magdalena Andersson, the prime minister, have tried to respond to calls for tougher crime measures. She has pledged tougher measures for gang-related offences and longer prison sentences, while connecting these issues solely to immigrants. But although the tougher rhetoric has made Ms Andersson popular, her coalition partners, a motley crew of the Left Party, the Green Party and the Centre Party, have not followed suit. When it comes to migration, all three parties are strongly in favour of a generous policy. In a recent column for the liberal weekly *Expressen*, political editor Anna Dahlberg came to the conclusion that "good liberals" can vote for the Right tomorrow.

FBI should search all of Trump's properties, says former top aide

By Nick Allen US EDITOR in Washington

DONALD TRUMP'S former "fixer" has said the FBI should search the former president's other addresses for top secret documents. In an interview with *The Sunday Telegraph*, Michael Cohen said he believed Mr Trump could have kept highly classified material, including nuclear secrets, to "exert power" over a foreign government. He also suggested Mr Trump would blame his former chief of staff for classified documents ending up at Mar-a-Lago, his Florida estate, where they were discovered in an FBI raid on Aug 8. Despite a popularity boost for Mr Trump among Republicans following the raid, Mr Cohen did not believe his former boss would run again in 2024, because "statistically he cannot win". When he was Mr Trump's personal attorney and "fixer", Mr Cohen arranged a hush-money payment of \$130,000 (£110,000) to the porn star Stormy Daniels, and another payment to *Playboy* model Karen McDougal. The payments were to stop the women publicly revealing previous alleged sexual encounters with Mr Trump during the 2016 presidential election. Mr Trump has always denied

the alleged affairs. Mr Cohen subsequently pleaded guilty to campaign finance violations over the hush payments, and other charges of tax evasion, and lying to the US Congress about a Trump property deal in Russia. He was sentenced to three years in prison, as well as being disbarred, but is now free on supervised release. His new book *Revenge: How Donald*



Michael Cohen paid \$130k in hush money to Stormy Daniels after her alleged sexual encounter with Donald Trump

Trump Weaponised the US Department of Justice Against His Critics is to be published on Oct 11. In it he will detail how his decade-long relationship with Mr Trump ended after the payment to Ms Daniels made him "look like a liability to the by-then-president of the United States". He said he was not surprised by the recent revelations that top secret documents had been found at Mar-a-Lago. Mr Cohen said: "Knowing Trump as I do, he took the documents to exert power; be it over the Department of Jus-

tice/FBI or a foreign country. There is no doubt in my mind that documents exist elsewhere. "The Department of Justice should immediately search his [New York] Fifth Avenue property, his children's properties as well as other locations he has visited over the past year." Mr Cohen said Mr Trump would "absolutely" blame someone else for what had transpired, and singled out his final White House chief of staff Mark Meadows as a possible scapegoat. "Donald has never accepted responsibility for any of his improper actions and never will," he said. "In this specific matter, he will blame Mark Meadows, as well as anyone who assisted in removing the documents from the White House." But he added: "I don't believe he was intending on running [for the White House in 2024] despite this latest debacle. I believe he and his team know that, statistically, he cannot win and, with his fragile ego, could not contend with being a two-time loser." On Mar-a-Lago, Mr Cohen added: "The entire social club, including Trump's office, is considered by DOJ/FBI as an unsecured premise, especially as it relates to the storage of top secret government documents. Donald has placed the country in grave danger."



The nation owes the late Queen a profound debt

Yesterday, King Charles III entered St James's Palace, where the Accession Council – formed of privy counsellors and other great figures of the realm – proclaimed him King in a moving ceremony that was televised for the first time.

Today, at the other end of the country, the coffin carrying the late Queen will begin the journey that will end on Monday week at St George's Chapel, Windsor, as it moves from the estate in Balmoral that she loved so much to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh.

This, then, is a weekend of seamless succession: two ceremonies, in two nations, in one United Kingdom, sealed by the monarchy. It is a vivid expression of the power of the Crown to bind the country together, and to symbolise endurance beyond one individual, even an individual who had given as many decades of devoted service as our late Queen.

This does not, of course, make the loss of Queen Elizabeth II any easier to bear. Many are still struggling to come to terms with the fact that, in the words of that Accession Proclamation, “it has pleased Almighty God to call to His mercy our late sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of blessed and glorious memory”.

But in the days ahead, the shock of grief may well give way to a period of reflection. The nation now has a chance to give thanks for a long life which could hardly have been better or more nobly lived.

After being flown from Edinburgh to London, the coffin carrying the late Queen will lie in state in Westminster Hall, draped in the Royal Standard and topped with the Imperial State Crown, orb and sceptre.

There, ahead of the state funeral at Westminster Abbey on Monday September 19, the public will be able to make a

solemn demonstration of their gratitude to a sovereign whose bond with her people can scarcely have been matched, even in a nation with a history as long and glorious as ours.

It is an opportunity not to be overlooked. To walk among the many thousands who have travelled to Buckingham Palace and other royal residences in the last 48 hours is to understand the depth of feeling that permeates and animates the unique relationship between Britons and their monarchs.

In paying their respects, each mourner will underscore that, in death as in life, there is a reciprocity between the grandest and the most humble, a reciprocity that the late Queen nurtured with such dedication, and that her son the King has so eloquently pledged himself to extend and defend.

For he recognises that there is in the Imperial State Crown that will lie upon his mother's coffin a vital symbol of this country's unwritten constitution, worn as it is at each state opening of Parliament.

Together, the permanence of the Crown and the democratic plasticity of Parliament provide this country with the perfect institutional platform to weather storms and adapt to new challenges.

The greatest tribute that both institutions can pay Queen Elizabeth, as we move through the week to her state funeral and beyond, will be to build on that platform to ensure our future strength and prosperity.

In the last two decades of her reign, the late Queen witnessed a digital revolution sweep the globe. The next two decades may well see technological developments which transform the world even more dramatically.

Equally, she reigned as the Cold War reached its most

dangerous peak, then as it ended and we entered what appeared to be an American century. Yet in the coming decades we may enter an even more perilous age of conflict and superpower rivalry. Only unpredictability seems dependable.

To navigate those challenges, Britain must pledge itself again to the combination of adaptability of outlook and unchanging values that Queen Elizabeth so ably demonstrated. It is a monumental challenge, but one that King Charles has already shown he has every ability and willingness to meet.

For now, though, it is time for the public to mourn and pay tribute to his late mother. Tomorrow, as Queen Elizabeth's coffin proceeds along Royal Mile to St Giles's Cathedral in Edinburgh, we will be given the first formal opportunity to do so.

As the week progresses, the national feeling will surely swell, and the crowds will thicken and deepen, as the scale of what has occurred sinks in. The whole country is about to begin a period unlike any that most alive today can recall.

It is right that it should do so. We may never see again a reign that is so long or which so anchors our lives and our nation so completely. In our connected world, where online expressions of solidarity can be so easily and so cheaply made, this week will serve as a reminder of what true national unity means – not a glib feeling but something particular and profound.

Each of us will mourn in our own way: tearful or stoic; together or alone; cheering Queen Elizabeth's memory or silently grieving her going. It will be a week none of us will ever forget, even as we remember how much that we owe her.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Finding comfort in the continuity of monarchy as Britain welcomes its new King

SIR – I hoped in my lifetime never to hear the dreadful words, “The Queen is dead” – but of course these words have been immediately followed by “Long live the King.” Thus continuity and stability are assured.

Let us give thanks to the late, beloved Queen Elizabeth II for all she did for the nation and the Commonwealth. But let us also look forward to the new reign, and offer King Charles III our heartfelt loyalty.

Nicholas Young
London W13

SIR – I remember my father standing in front of his school in 1952 to announce: “The King is dead. Long live the Queen.”

Taking on the position of head of state at 73 will not be easy, but I wish our new King a long, happy and successful reign.

Annabel Burton
Winchcombe, Gloucestershire

SIR – As I watched the King and Queen Consort walking through the gates of Buckingham Palace on Friday, I was overcome by a wondrous sense of reassurance. This is going to be a very fine reign.

Jane Reynard
Eastleach, Gloucestershire

SIR – How well King Charles handled his return to Buckingham Palace.

That he engaged in an extensive walkabout, engaging with well-wishers, was unexpected; but to walk with the Queen Consort through the gates across the courtyard and into the Palace was a wonderfully modest and dignified gesture.

Michael Staples
Seaford, East Sussex

SIR – The King's address to the nation was the most heartfelt speech I have ever heard.

Wendy Farrington
Kendal, Cumbria

SIR – All my life, Queen Elizabeth was

mentioned in our household – first by my mother, who admired her tremendously, and later by me with my own family and friends.

My mother even dressed as she did when at Balmoral (we also lived in Scotland). As monarch, she was the living representation of the long history of our country, of which I am enormously proud.

She did an amazing job, and maintained traditional standards and beliefs while managing to move with the times. People would do well to emulate her.

I now transfer my support to her son, who I am sure will prove an excellent King.

Pamela Wignall
Chesham, Buckinghamshire

SIR – In 1952, news of George VI's death took days to reach some lonely outposts of outback Australia.

On Friday, within minutes of sunrise, the sunset on our own Elizabethan era had been seen and heard here by all. And by breakfast, the R-word was already ringing over the airwaves: not *Rex*, but *republic*.

Australia's modern conscience, with its due admonitions of past injustices, has bred an uneasy relationship with colonial history and a curious monarchical dissonance. The Platinum Jubilee saw the incoming prime minister, Anthony Albanese, appoint a minister for the republic tasked with dismantling the constitutional monarchy. Meanwhile support for Queen Elizabeth hit five-year highs and republican sentiment sank to five-year lows.

King Charles now has a unique opportunity to build on the late Queen's totemic legacy, to recapture the Australian imagination. The deep historical, cultural and social ties between the two realms must be celebrated; the strength of the Commonwealth, with the King at its head and heart, reinforced. For we will all, down here or up there, lose so much if the minister for the republic has his way.

Greig Lamont
Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

SIR – As someone only a few years younger than Queen Elizabeth, I have many memories of her long reign, but I was always particularly impressed by the way her influence stretched beyond the United Kingdom.

I remember how, at the very beginning, my relatives travelled over from Ireland for the coronation and joined neighbours crowded into my parents' house to watch it on their precious television.

When the news of Queen Elizabeth's death was announced, we were entertaining some visitors from the United States, and they expressed their own deep respect for her character and exemplary behaviour.



King Charles with his mother at Buckingham Palace, celebrating his fourth birthday

She personified the very best of our country to people across the world for 70 years, and had a hugely positive effect on the way we are perceived abroad.

Bridget Moody
Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire

SIR – A few years ago, I delivered a short presentation to a class of 10-year-old children in a normal state school in Queen Creek, a town near Phoenix, Arizona.

At one point I showed a picture of Harry Potter. I heard some of the girls gasp: “Oh, Harry!” Of course all the children knew who he was.

Later I showed a picture of Queen Elizabeth. I asked if anyone knew who she was. Once again, *every* hand shot up. At that moment I realised the power and reach of the monarchy.

Keith Ougden
Paphos, Cyprus

SIR – As a Frenchman, I can assure you of the deep admiration and affection for Queen Elizabeth among my compatriots. In a much too rare display of friendship to the British people, Emmanuel Macron found the *mot juste* when he declared: “To you, she was

your Queen. To us, she was The Queen.” United in mourning her death, we wish a long and happy reign to King Charles III.

La Reine est morte, vive le Roi.

Antoine Puibaraud
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire

SIR – Queen Elizabeth famously said of her husband, Prince Philip: “He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years.”

Well, the late Queen was *our* strength and stay – and the world is a less reassuring place without her.

Alan Page
Holt, Norfolk

SIR – I share the great sadness at the Queen's death, but we should be grateful that she was able to continue performing her duties to the very end. It would have been so much sadder if she had had to endure the gradual weakening of her faculties.

She died as she had lived, with perfect timing, and our final memories of her will be of the way she greeted the new Prime Minister, with her characteristic smile and sense of duty.

Elizabeth Robertson
Cranbrook, Kent

SIR – In death, Queen Elizabeth has rendered her final service to her people, perhaps her most important one of recent years.

A fractured country has begun to come together, albeit in mourning. Old grievances, factions and conflicts, the spitefulness of social media and the many voices of anger and discord have all been put to one side.

It may be only a temporary respite, but it is a start.

Bob Gould
Selsey, West Sussex

SIR – Politicians divide, monarchs unite.

Brendon Chappell
Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex

SIR – I first saw Queen Elizabeth in June 1953, when she reviewed the Royal Air Force at RAF Odiham.

I was an 18-year-old pilot officer but can picture the event to this day, with the Queen driving up and down the lines of 314 aircraft in an open-topped Land Rover. I served Queen and country for over 25 years in the RAF, and was lucky to meet her twice.

The first time was when she presented me with an Air Force Cross at Buckingham Palace in 1974. We were all lined up, and I was surprised to find myself at the front. We had been briefed to approach her, salute and bow, and to address her as “Your Majesty”, then “Ma'am”.

She was standing on a dais, flanked by Gurkha guards. She completely disarmed me, with protocol going out the window, when she placed my medal in the palm of her hand, leant forward to show it to me and said: “That's a nice medal to get, isn't it?”

“Yes, thank you,” I whispered, before saluting and marching away.

The second time I met her was at a garden party, when my family and I were introduced to her on the way from the Palace to the royal tea tent. An aisle had formed, and I was in uniform wearing my medals. We had been briefed – me to salute and address the Queen the same way as before, and the ladies to curtsy.

On her arrival I saluted and – I don't know why – said: “We have met before, but I don't expect you remember.”

She smiled and replied: “One might, you know.”

She chatted to us for about 10 minutes without any formality, and I found her very knowledgeable about search and rescue, my role at that time. I am immensely proud to have been able to serve her.

AFC Peter Pascoe RAF (retd)
Doncaster, South Yorkshire

SIR – In 1972, when I was working in Kenya, Queen Elizabeth came on a state visit. I took a picture of her with President Uhuru Kenyatta.

A few years ago I sent her a copy of it without expecting any response. But

she did respond, via a lady-in-waiting, who thanked me.

Such thoughtfulness over such a small thing. She was extraordinary.

John Jackson
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

SIR – Seven years ago, I was taking a lunchtime walk to the shops.

I noticed there was a strange silence, with no vehicles to be seen. Police outriders were keeping the surrounding roads empty.

As I waited to cross at the traffic lights, a long black car drove slowly past me, with Queen Elizabeth a matter of feet away in the rear seat. I was shocked, but she gave me a brief, sweet and radiant smile.

I believe she was being taken on a visit to a local school in Romford.

Gordon Moser
Barkingside, Essex

SIR – The service at St Paul's on Friday night to commemorate the life of the late Queen was impeccable.

The simplicity, the wonderful music and the prayers hit all the right notes, without any waffling eulogies from insincere dignitaries. Thank you to all who arranged it.

Julia Dearing
Liverpool

SIR – Why did the BBC cancel *Last Night of the Proms*?

It appears King Charles knows his people better than the BBC does. On Friday he stopped his car before entering Buckingham Palace as King for the first time in order to greet the public. He understood the mood of the nation perfectly and lifted the spirits of all he met.

What did the BBC do? It cancelled an iconic event that captures the spirit of the British people. The evening would have been a perfect opportunity for viewers to celebrate the life of the late Queen and sing *God Save the King* for the first time.

Sheila G Mortimer
Cuckfield, West Sussex

SIR – The BBC's coverage in the last few days has been impeccable – deeply moving, and with such interesting commentaries. A harrowing time has been made beautiful and reassuring.

Jenny Woodford
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire



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CATHERINE PEPINSTER

Glorious British customs don't need reinventing



This country has a genius for pageantry which is celebrated around the world

Football was cancelled this weekend. Horse racing was off and so was the Tour of Britain cycling event. Even next week's rail strike has been cancelled as a mark of respect for Queen Elizabeth II. The Royal Albert Hall was dark too, as the BBC cancelled the *Last Night of the Proms*, whose celebratory atmosphere might have jarred during a time of national mourning for the late Queen. Those who loathe what they see as jingoistic jollity from the flag-waving crowds will have been thrilled, but I for one missed Elgar's *Land of Hope and Glory*, more formally known as *Pomp and Circumstance March No 1 in D*. For that is exactly what this country still does so well: pomp and circumstance. Those trumpeters in red and gold coming on to the balcony of St James's Palace for yesterday's proclamation of Charles III brought us the formal announcement of a new age in a thrilling ceremony, steeped in tradition. Coverage of the late Queen's death has gone global, not just because of her fame and longevity, but because the rest of the world is fascinated by our ancient customs and how they connect us with this island's history. From time to time, governments are tempted to junk the old and focus on the new. Remember the days of New Labour's attempt to refashion the United Kingdom as Cool Britannia? They even tried to acquire Queen Elizabeth's imprimatur, getting her and the Duke of Edinburgh to join hands with Tony and Cherie Blair and sing *Auld Lang Syne* in the Millennium Dome on New Year's Eve 1999. The late Queen looked decidedly unamused, and made it clear in her Christmas Day 2000 message that the achingly modern Dome was not what the Millennium was about: it was about the birth of Christ and his teachings that she followed, the teachings that she said: "Provide a framework in which I try to lead my life."

Queen Elizabeth's Christian faith, her long life of service and dedication to the nation will all be remembered at her state funeral in Westminster Abbey. There will be people calling for it to be understated at a time of financial crisis for the country while others will urge that it must be modernised and express 21st-century Britain. But this is no moment for Diana-like obsequies, with a song from Elton John. It is an opportunity for Britain to give its Platinum Queen the most magnificent send-off with all the liturgical beauty that a Westminster Abbey service can muster.

The people who rushed to secure tickets for Friday's memorial service for the late Queen at St Paul's Cathedral prove that tradition is far from a turn-off. Among the congregation were large numbers of young people in their 20s and 30s, and from many different ethnic minorities, keen to be part of an historic event of traditional prayers and hymns in Wren's great church. A similar mixed crowd waited to hear the proclamation of the new King outside St James's Palace. And the modernity of Britain was also apparent in the Accession Council itself, from it being televised for the first time, and its ceremonies being led for the first time by a woman - Penny Mordaunt, in her capacity as Lord President of the Privy Council.

So there is no need to reinvent the great moments of our national life, to throw overboard the well-honed customs and traditions that others abroad find so fascinating. We have a genius for pageantry in this country and should celebrate that to stunning effect at this time. Look after the ancient, and the modern - those young Britons and their counterparts abroad - will love it.

Catherine Pepinster is the author of 'Defenders of the Faith: the British Monarchy, Religion and the Next Coronation'



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DANIEL JOHNSON

Left-wing declinists are blind to the enduring power of our monarchy



The global outpouring of grief for Queen Elizabeth II is a testament to her, but also to the system that she so carefully tended

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Perhaps no public figure in history has ever elicited such a sense of loss around the world on her death as Queen Elizabeth II. In the United States, with the exception of the churlish *New York Times*, the reaction has been overwhelming. The President ordered all flags to fly at half-mast until her funeral. The French state's response has been equally impressive. Yet neither Joe Biden nor Emmanuel Macron is a conspicuous Anglophile. It is the same story everywhere. In India, now governed by Hindu nationalists who detest the legacy of British rule, today is a day of official - and heartfelt - mourning for the late Queen. Even in Russia, Vladimir Putin has sent condolences to "Karl III" for the death of "Elizaveta II" (though she saw through the Russian despot as soon as she met him, long before most world leaders).

The fact that this universally beloved, almost superhuman focus of respect and reverence happens to have been not only a woman of flesh and blood, but our dear, familiar Queen, is a mystery to those who despise Britain. Yet that enigma offers clues to the future of our monarchy and our country.

It is unquestionably true that the Queen had extraordinary, unprecedented personal qualities that, in her inimitable humanity and selfless constancy, transcended anything the world had seen before in a hereditary monarch. Nobody before her had even imagined that anyone in her position, especially a reigning Queen, could become so accessible, so likeable, so lovable.

Almost as soon as she succeeded her shy and reticent father, Elizabeth set

about reinventing the public image of the institution she had inherited. With growing confidence and, by sheer force of personality, she created the means to achieve her ends: the Christmas broadcasts and other uses of the new medium of television; the royal tours, visits and walkabouts; her international profile, especially in the Commonwealth.

Her jubilees grew to become vast in scale, as did the global audiences for royal weddings and funerals. She never put a foot wrong, but she was never afraid of innovation. By the end, she was even engaging in online events and miniature comedy sketches.

The late Queen was anything but a revolutionary, yet the metamorphosis of the monarchy that took place in her 70 years on the throne demonstrates her grasp of the conservative principle encapsulated in Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's novel *The Leopard*: "If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change."

And change they did, while always preserving the essentials. In his address on Friday, the King pledged himself "to uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation". He did not need to spell out those principles, because everyone knows how they work.

In the past few days, however, a dangerous narrative has emerged on the anti-monarchist, unpatriotic Left. Queen Elizabeth, they suggest, was indeed loved, but all she did was to mask Britain's decline. Without her to provide the window dressing, the system will be exposed as hollow and the monarchy will soon be swept away.

This story comforts those in the woke camp who hate everything about

our country. That it is nonsense is, however, already being demonstrated by the evidently genuine enthusiasm for the King and Queen, as well as for the new Prince and Princess of Wales.

We are mourning the late Queen as a nation, as indeed we should: nobody deserved it more. Many of us will miss her for the rest of our lives.

Yet already, even as we prepare for what will surely be the most widely watched funeral in history, one senses a rising anticipation and excitement about the King, his coronation and the bright future it portends. The second Elizabethan age, with all its glories, may be drawing to a close, but we may already discern on the horizon a new

'Already one senses a rising anticipation and excitement about the King, his coronation and the future'

Carolingian renaissance.

So we should ignore the siren songs of those who praise Queen Elizabeth only to denigrate the institution and the country she loved and for which she gave her entire life. The King and his "dear Mama" should not be played off against each other: Queen and Prince were complementary. Now, as monarch, the King knows he must put his campaigns and eccentricities behind him. He will remain strictly above politics, just as she did. He can leave "leading the national conversation" to the Prince of Wales, for better or worse.

The deep affection in which the late Queen is held is, of course, shared throughout the free world. To the

woke, it may seem paradoxical that she should be so cherished by so many former peoples of the British Empire, which had during her father George VI's reign still been the largest in history.

But there is no paradox. In Queen Elizabeth, the 2.5 billion inhabitants of the Commonwealth and billions more elsewhere saw a figure who symbolised their own aspirations for liberty under the law. In his address to the nation, the new King pledged to cherish "the precious traditions, freedoms and responsibilities of our unique history and our system of parliamentary government". Most of humanity loved the late Queen because she stood for all these things. Her successor, son and heir will do the same.

Britain's cultural influence has always exceeded its economic or military power. This year's Global Soft Power Index ranks the UK second, behind the US, but ahead of Germany, China and Japan.

For 70 years, Queen Elizabeth has been our secret weapon in diplomacy, ensuring that Britain has maintained its prestige through all the vicissitudes of recent decades. Yet her unique achievement was not solely due to her greatness of spirit, still less an accident of celebrity. The system of which she was the apex is the culmination of more than a thousand years of history.

The British Crown has been immeasurably strengthened by our noble Queen's example. In the capable hands of King Charles III, however, the monarchy will survive her death and, like the kingdom which it unites, flourish for innumerable generations to come.

ZOE STRIMPEL

Elizabeth II embodied the virtues of the pre-internet age



She did good for its own sake, not in order to virtue signal on social media

On Thursday evening, shortly after news of Queen Elizabeth II's death broke, I was one of thousands who made their way to Buckingham Palace. Like the crowds I encountered at its gates, I was there, not just to pay my respects, but because I had been lured by the sense of history, of the need to capture the moment on camera and then, of course, to post it online. It was impossible to escape the observation that, on Thursday night at least, there were more phones than flowers by a very long way. I felt uneasy, unsettled: I was no better than much of the crowd, but mass "mourning" in an age of social media didn't look much like mourning at all. It looked like a competitive compulsion to record the "story".

In the days since, as thousands have flocked to locations across the UK to

mourn Queen Elizabeth in more traditional ways, it has been reassuring to see that all is not perhaps lost. It is dispiriting, however, that the internet age does not seem to prize many of the virtues that the late Queen embodied.

In contrast with the legions of virtue-signallers on social media desperate to show off their right-on credentials, she represented doing good for its own sake. During her reign, she lived within a moral universe of family, religion and duty, the complete opposite to the baseless self-promotion and obsessive self-reflection demanded of the millions trapped within Instagram and TikTok - including, it appears, Harry and Meghan.

The late Queen's life and persona are particularly poignant in contrast with celebrity womanhood today. She was beautiful: pictures of her on her

wedding day or heading into Claridge's in rich white furs, tiara and pearl-studded golden-yellow dress, take the breath away. But this was always secondary to the wholeness of her person and the role she conducted for so many years without complaint.

The internet wants to take everything real and convert it into "content" or a "meme". Queen Elizabeth was a bulwark against all this. She was, as a friend mused to me, "unmemeable". She was simply beyond anything the internet might do to her.

The internet has allowed for many amazing things, but it has also torn privacy apart. This it has done not by intruding on us per se but by making addictive exhibitionists of us. The late Queen's relationship to publicity was different. She did not refuse to move with the times, or pretend that

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television hadn't changed the way that people related to power and politics. In 1992, the television documentary film *Elizabeth R* followed Queen Elizabeth as she conducted various duties, as well as visiting her horses at Sandringham. But it was not reality TV, in the Kardashian style, or a tell-all cry of narcissism like Meghan's interview with Oprah. It was elegant and informative, born of a desire to serve, not to gloat or gain.

And then there was her evident pleasure in delighting the public through entertainment at just the right moments. Her amazing entrance, with Daniel Craig as James Bond, to the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympics was so enjoyable precisely because it was such a departure from Her Majesty's usual public appearances. The same shot of joy to

the nation was there too in her conversation with Paddington Bear during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The qualities she showed in both instances - the authentic sense of fun, the genuineness - have become vanishingly rare in the internet age.

We are mourning the death of a highly individual, remarkable woman: one of the most remarkable the world has ever seen. We are also mourning the end of an era - not only a historical period defined by her rule, but of a type of person.

The late Queen had more absolute and soft power than almost any other woman, or man, ever to live. And everything about her, from her gravitas to her beauty to her interpretation of duty, were forged in the fires of a Britain, and a world, established well outside the tyranny of the smartphone.

DANIEL HANNAN

It's no coincidence that the most successful democracies are constitutional monarchies



A monarchy is there to legitimise the government and to forestall the possibility of civil war

My phone started buzzing with messages as soon as Queen Elizabeth II's death was announced: friends and former colleagues, politicians and ambassadors, all wanting to express their sorrow and their admiration for our sovereign. As I write, I can count 51 WhatsApps and texts. All of them are from outside the Commonwealth, and the vast majority from republics. Many of the people sending them, especially the Americans, see the repudiation of monarchy as an important part of their own identity. One friend, an old-fashioned lefty from Vermont, was typical: "Even I, a resolute Republican, am an admirer of how Elizabeth conducted herself in her anachronistic role. My condolences." Americans tend to profess admiration for the woman who wore the crown rather than for the crown itself, much as one might admire the Dalai Lama without being a Buddhist. Yet, the more you think about it, the harder it is to separate the office-holder from the office. Had Elizabeth Windsor had the baby brother she used to pray for as a girl, she would doubtless have lived a blameless life of rural domesticity. The virtues that the world admired in her – discretion, dignity and, above all, duty – were admirable precisely because they were the virtues of a head of state. Republicans might retort that being the head of state in a constitutional monarchy is hardly a demanding job. The role has been filled in Britain by, among others, two foreigners, a rake and a madman. Only one British monarch – the late Queen's uncle – was deemed to fall short of the minimal standards required. Yet this is to miss the point. A constitutional monarchy is not there to magnify the ruler; we leave that sort of thing to people's republics. No, a constitutional monarchy is there to legitimise the government, to elevate and ennoble the state's core functions and, in the last analysis, to forestall the possibility of civil war. Yes, civil war. Forty-three per cent of Americans, according to YouGov, expect such an outcome within the next decade. Before you dismiss that finding, consider why civil wars happen. They typically begin, not because people disagree over what policies their country should adopt, but because they disagree about who has the right to issue the orders. While ethnic, religious or doctrinal differences might furnish the combustible material, the match is almost always struck when someone disputes the authority of the presumed

government. Now ask yourself whether such a scenario is impossible in the US. For at least 20 years, there has been a growing tendency there for both parties to see elections as contingent, going immediately to court if they lose. After the 2020 election, the habit of lawfare turned into something altogether more sinister. In defeat, Donald Trump cajoled various state authorities to declare a different result and, later, incited a mob to march on the Capitol in an attempt to stop the vote being certified. Suppose that, in 2024, Trump stands again and loses again. Does anyone seriously imagine that he would graciously accept the verdict of the ballot box? Of course not. Once again, he would wheedle, threaten and bully in an attempt to get a different electoral college empanelled. But whereas in 2020 patriotic Republican officials stood by their oaths to the constitution, many of those officials have since been turfed out by Trumpians who got elected precisely by denying that election result. It is no longer unthinkable that some state administrations, alleging fraud, might appoint their own slates of electoral college delegates. It is possible to imagine two rival electoral colleges choosing two rival presidents, and the 50 states dividing over which to recognise. Yes, that outcome might still be unlikely. But it is no longer

Americans tend to profess admiration for the woman who wore the crown rather than for the crown itself

inconceivable. Here, by contrast, such a situation simply could not come about. We have an umpire whose authority all sides respect. Whoever the King recognised would be the head of His Majesty's Government. That is what a constitutional monarch is: a military commander who is not a general, a head of state who is not a politician, a focus for national loyalty who is above ideology and beyond faction. Don't get me wrong: I love the United States with an intensity that even I sometimes find embarrassing. I revere the US Constitution in a way that only a few Ron Paul-type literalists still do. Nonetheless, at this distance in time, we can surely admit one thing. The American Revolution, however happy its consequences, was based on what turned out to be a falsehood. In Great Britain, as in the Thirteen



GETTY IMAGES

Colonies, the 1760s gave birth to an odd conspiracy theory to the effect that the Hanoverians were trying to roll back the powers of Parliament and rule as mediaeval despots. How people ever came to believe this of the dim, dull, decent George III is a mystery. In any event, it turned out to be utter nonsense. Democracy continued to advance in Britain as in North America. Far from descending into autocracy, we remained, in effect, a crowned republic. Indeed, by the time of the American Revolution, we had already had almost a century of parliamentary supremacy. Since 1689, MPs had determined who should be head of state. They did so when they laid out the succession terms for William and Mary, and they have carried on doing so since – most recently in 2013, when the 15 Realms decided, democratically, to alter the

A cultural icon: the late Queen was admired around the world for her discretion, dignity and duty

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rules so that elder daughters should inherit the throne before younger sons. None of the flummery associated with the crown – golden coaches, state openings, military reviews – detracts from our democracy. Around four fifths of us presently support the monarchy. But if that majority changed, and voters preferred a republic, no one doubts that their wishes would prevail. That is the beautiful contradiction inherent in a constitutional monarchy. The monarch is sovereign, yet serves at our pleasure. The late Roger Scruton expressed the paradox eloquently when he likened the magic of monarchy to the enchanting light from the top of a Christmas tree, which the British people perfectly well remembered having climbed up and placed there themselves. In the United States, where there is

no such enchantment, there is a growing prospect of political violence. Not so in Canada, distinguished from its southern neighbour largely by the fact of its monarchy. There, the parliamentary system is unquestioned and political disagreements remain civil. And not by coincidence. To become a Canadian citizen, you have to swear an oath of loyalty to the monarch, and the accompanying literature explains why in language that neatly makes the case for having a monarch above politics: "In Canada, we profess our loyalty to a person who represents all Canadians and not to a document such as a constitution, a banner such as a flag, or a geopolitical entity such as a country. In our constitutional monarchy, these elements are encompassed by the Sovereign (Queen or King). It is a remarkably simple yet powerful principle: Canada is personified by the Sovereign just as the Sovereign is personified by Canada." Canada and the United States are, of course, nations that are exceptionally close to us, as well as to one another. Both are old and successful democracies. Consider, though, some of the countries with a less developed tradition of constitutional rule. Here are the states I can think of that abolished their monarchies during the late Queen's 70-year reign: Afghanistan, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, Iraq, Iran, Laos, Libya, Nepal, Rwanda, Tunisia, Vietnam, Yemen. Of that list, I reckon only Greece can be said to have made a success of the change. In all the others, there have been times when ordinary people longed for a neutral referee who was neither a politician nor a general. CS Lewis, as so often, expressed it beautifully: "Where men are forbidden to honour a king, they honour millionaires, athletes, or film stars instead; even famous prostitutes or gangsters. For spiritual nature, like bodily nature, will be served; deny it food and it will gobble poison." It is striking to see how many of the world's most liberal, tranquil, contented and egalitarian countries turn out to be constitutional monarchies: Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway. Even more striking is how many of these states share the same monarch: King Charles III, the 34th great-grandson of Kenneth MacAlpin, 33rd great-grandson of Brian Boru, and 33rd great-grandson of Alfred the Great – and, according to some genealogists, 41st great-grandson of the Prophet Mohammed. Not a bad record, all told. God Save the King.

TOM HARRIS

The late Queen was a hero to the working class on Left and Right



It is a testament to her service and duty that the traditional Labour movement is as devoted to the monarchy as anyone else

Devotion to the late Queen and her family was bred into me, growing up in a solidly working class, Labour-voting household in Ayrshire. My father, a long-distance lorry driver, was proud when his employers decided to add a Union flag to the front of their lorry fleet to mark the Silver Jubilee in 1977. Queen Elizabeth was simply someone we looked to as a point of stability in the often turbulent years of the 1970s and early 1980s. Miners' strikes, three-day weeks, winters of discontent, recessions and wars – there was never a time when we felt that Her Majesty was anything other than a woman who was devoted to her country, and also to us, irrespective of the nation's partisan political beliefs. It is an irony of British politics that, with the brief exception of Jeremy Corbyn, the main Left-wing party has shown just as much support for the institution of the constitutional monarchy as its main opponent, the Conservatives. This was achieved almost entirely thanks to the late Queen herself, whose political sensitivity and astuteness was second to none, and whose own devotion to her duties was the guarantor of her perpetual neutrality. But neutrality didn't mean disinterest; any of her prime ministers knew she could be relied upon to offer a thoughtful and sophisticated read of current events, domestic and international. And Labour MPs were just as excited as anyone else when the invitations to the Palace arrived. It says a great deal about Her Majesty's unique ability to set visitors at ease that she could smile her way through a reception packed with elected representatives holding a wide range of backgrounds and views, including, in some cases, republicanism. Yet oddly, when the time came to shake hands with her and Prince Philip, few of us dared to do anything other than smile, bow and move on. For we recognised her as someone

far more than a woman who was born to rule; we saw her for the national and international leader she was, blissfully free from party loyalties. And in the kinds of working-class communities Labour MPs represented in those days, our devotion to the monarchy was reflected by our voters, few of whom would ever complain about their MP spending time at Buckingham Palace. This was seen as a necessary part of the job, not as an indulgence. It wasn't just the late Queen's lack of political affiliation that endeared her to the country and to the party; it was the fact that she had maintained that role for generations. Just as Wales and football fields are used by newspapers as illustrative standard measures of area, so the Queen's reign can be measured in prime ministers: 15 since she ascended the throne. It's no surprise that the life of Queen Elizabeth is often portrayed as the political history of the nation she loved and served. For the Labour movement in the post-war era, the late Queen was the immovable figurehead, the one person who knew intimately the views of every Labour prime minister across an astonishing period of time, from Harold Wilson in 1964, through to Gordon Brown's resignation in 2010. That period represents a crucial part of Labour's history, encompassing many of its highs and lows. No other figure in the world could claim a front row seat to the spectacle of those times, and Labour prime ministers – every one of them – loved her for the counsel and friendship she offered. It is arguably in part thanks to the Labour's pro-monarchist culture, despite some loud voices in its ranks in recent years, that the future of the monarchy is rarely even questioned. The party recognises the value of the role of unelected head of state. Free from the encumbrances of political affiliation, our monarch can rally the country in ways that a president could simply not emulate.



The Tudor queen was once voted our best monarch but she has been supplanted

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LEANDA DE LISLE

Elizabeth II was even greater than Elizabeth I

On March 24 1603, Elizabeth I died aged 69 after a reign of 45 years. Her subjects were shocked. How could they not be, the playwright Thomas Dekker asked: "a nation almost begotten and born under her; that never shouted any other Ave, but for her name, never saw the face of any prince but herself"? So it is for us, on the death of Elizabeth II after a reign of 70 years. Elizabeth was judged an auspicious name for a new monarch in 1952. Her Tudor predecessor was greatly admired and is voted regularly as England's greatest monarch. In the future, however, Elizabeth II will surely supplant her Tudor predecessor in that accolade. Elizabeth II was 25 in 1952: the same age as the first Elizabeth when she inherited the throne in 1558. As a daughter, the latter had been born second best: queen only because she had no brother left to supersede her. The theologian John Calvin wrote to Elizabeth I's servant William Cecil sympathetically, equating living under a female monarch to living in slavery. Yet Elizabeth I was destined to bring stability to a kingdom that suffered the bitterness and violence of religious division. At her funeral, the crowds recalled "the long and peaceable time of her reign, wishing that things might continue in no worse state than they had done". Elizabeth II has similarly been our constant through the upheavals of generations and there have been tears also. But what marks her as the greater monarch? The first Elizabeth was arguably better educated than our Queen. She had belonged to a brief period of history when the aristocracy valued the education of their daughters. As princess, she had also learnt lessons on the wheel of fortune. Henry VIII's annulment of his marriage to Elizabeth I's mother, Anne Boleyn, had made her illegitimate. She owed her claim to parliament, not to blood, and she bore the taint of her mother's execution for

treason. Her position was too precarious for her to dare to marry and anger one constituency or another. Elizabeth II also, however, knew something of the taint of scandal. Henry VIII headed a Church that allowed annulment but not divorce. When Edward VIII had insisted on marrying a divorcee, it had cost him his crown and made her father king. She had also lived through the Second World War. Her cousin, crown prince Olaf of Norway, and his father King Haakon, had come to England after escaping a Nazi invasion in 1942. Britain stood alone against Hitler and there had been no certainty of outcome. Meanwhile, Nicholas II's sister, Xenia, was living at Hampton Court, having fled the Russian revolution of 1918 in which the tsar's family were murdered. *She had become queen of many far-flung territories, a legacy of an empire in retreat: 'our imperial family'* Elizabeth I often spoke of her love for her subjects. She never trusted the political elite, but put her faith in the "people", as she told the Spanish ambassador before she was crowned. She described her subjects as her children. The striking difference was Elizabeth II's emphasis on her role as a servant. At her first Christmas broadcast, she asked for people to pray "that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I might faithfully serve Him and you". She had become queen of many far-flung territories, a legacy of an empire that was in retreat: "our imperial family", she called it. As that family broke up and shrank, she reminded us all of what binds every human being. In 2020, Elizabeth II spoke in admiration of all those who help others, "regardless of gender, race

or background". This was not a feeling shared by Elizabeth I who persecuted Jews, Catholics, Anabaptists and whose subjects were then beginning to enslave Africans and to build an empire. The Tudor Elizabeth chose as her motto, "*Semper eadem*", "I never change". In truth, by the end of her life many of her subjects were desperate that she would. They wanted reform of her church. Her leading servants, not least William Cecil's son Robert, were detested. Catholics prayed for the religious freedoms granted to Protestants in France. Elizabeth II, by contrast, managed a period of royal evolution, marking the coming and going of governments and opening up a more intimate side of her family to public view. She also made substantial changes, in, for example, ending the ban on divorce in her role as governor of the Church of England and of male primogeniture in the royal succession. When at last in 1603 Elizabeth I "departed this life, mildly like a lamb, easily, like a ripe apple from the tree", England was fearful about what would come next. The Virgin Queen had long refused to name an heir. For us, the future has been clearly set. The late Queen named her eldest children, Charles and Anne, like Elizabeth I's Stuart successors. That dynasty is less admired than the Tudors, but it was a mark of her devotion to the kingdom where she died. Our Elizabeth was a great Queen of Scots as well as of England, and in her son, our King, she has an heir who delivers assurances of love and that he too seeks to be our servant. Charles III has had a great example set to him. Perhaps the greatest set by any of his predecessors in a thousand years: of love and of service. *Leanda de Lisle is the author of several bestselling and prize-winning books on the Tudors and Stuarts including 'Tudor: The Family Story'*

From ‘Rocketman’ to ‘Raging Bull’: the real-life dramas you must see

As the highly anticipated Marilyn Monroe biopic ‘Blonde’ hits Venice, *Alex Diggins* and *Tim Robey* round up the 30 most memorable films that this mercurial genre has yielded – and five of the worst

- 30. CAPOTE**
(*Bennett Miller, 2005*)
Where most biopics sprawl, this penetrates, by tackling only a sliver of its subject’s life – the writer’s block Truman Capote endured researching *In Cold Blood*. Philip Seymour Hoffman makes his intellectual vanity dazzlingly funny.

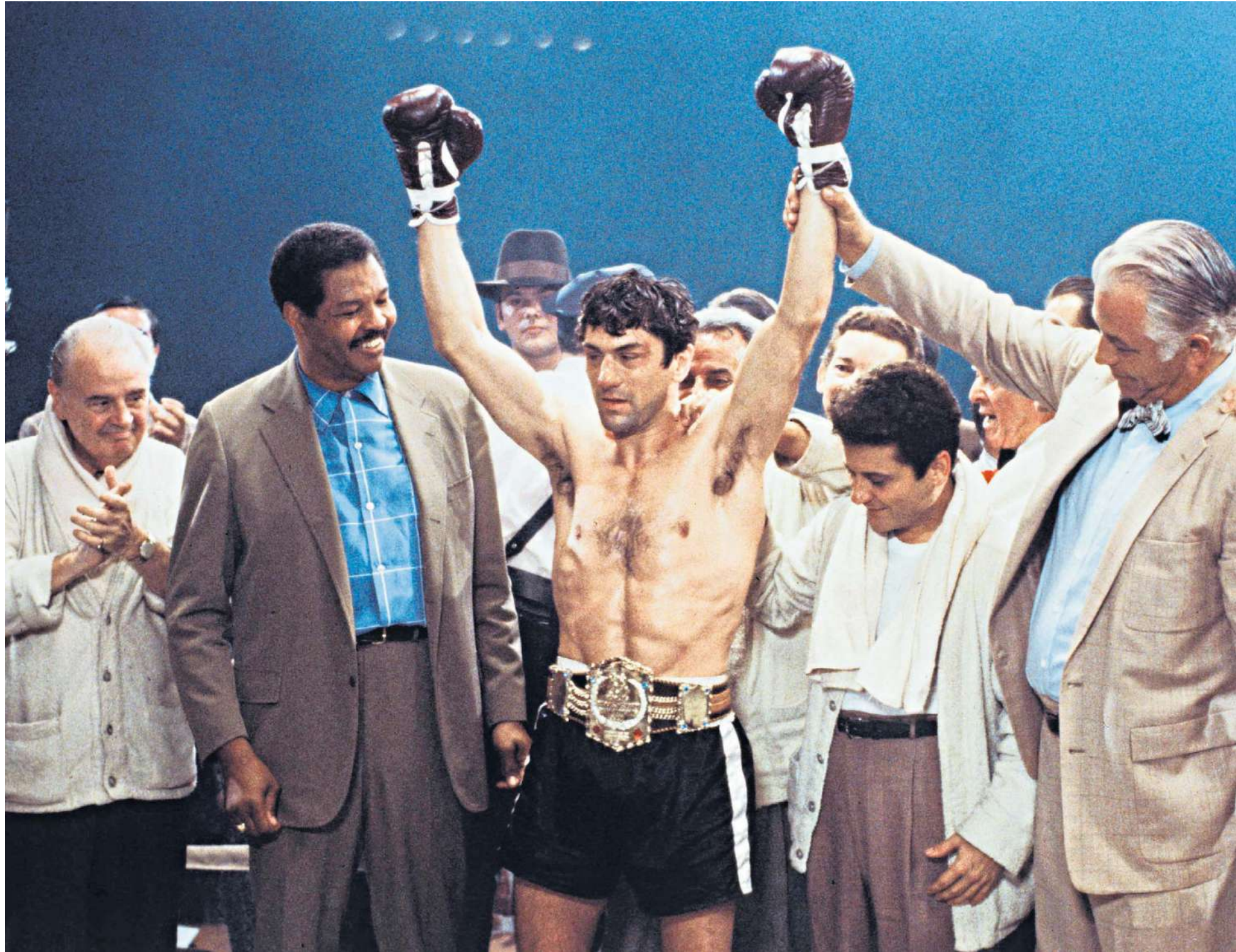
29. MARIE ANTOINETTE
(*Sofia Coppola, 2006*)
Fed up with every costume drama breaking the fourth wall while being soundtracked by a Britpop banger? This Kirsten Dunst-starring film is to blame – but it’s still a revolutionary joy.

28. HAWKING
(*Peter Moffat, 2004*)
Eddie Redmayne’s showier turn in *The Theory of Everything* has overshadowed other interpretations. But Benedict Cumberbatch was excellent as Hawking – the first of his now-wearying maverick geniuses.
- 27. RAY**
(*Taylor Hackford, 2005*)
This richly detailed chronicle garnered multiple awards, including the Best Actor Oscar, for Jamie Foxx’s soulful embodiment of legendary blues man Ray Charles. It’s alright, yes indeed!

26. ROCKETMAN
(*Dexter Fletcher, 2019*)
Rescuing the musical biopic following the nadir of *Bohemian Rhapsody*, Taron Egerton brought pathos and pizzazz as Elton John, while the film captured the surreal glamour of his music.

25. QUEEN CHRISTINA
(*Rouben Mamoulian, 1933*)
This brooding historical epic used Greta Garbo’s Valkyrie-like severity to wonderful effect as Queen Christina of Sweden.

24. GANDHI
(*Richard Attenborough, 1982*)
With a cast of thousands, this makes all



Can you sing in Elvish? How to score ‘The Lord of the Rings’

Composer Bear McCreary on his toughest job to date. By *Alex Diggins*

A good soundtrack is the emotional architecture of a film. It gives structure, stability and – if the composer knows their ocarinas – can live rent-free in your unconscious for decades to come. Howard Shore’s soundtrack for Peter Jackson’s *Lord of the Rings* films does exactly that. Even if you have only a passing acquaintance with hobbits, you are likely to recognise the lone, violin of the Rohirrim theme, or the beauty of ‘Gandalf’s Lament’.

A tough act to follow, then. But Bear McCreary, the long-haired, 43-year-old American composer who created the music for Amazon’s \$1 billion prequel series, *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power*, is boyishly unburdened when he speaks to me from his LA studio. “What I wanted was not to create a score that lasts two decades, the way Shore has done, but to tell the story in a way I could be proud of,” he says. “I wanted to write a score that I would like as a fan.”

A protégé of Elmer Bernstein, who wrote the score for *The Magnificent Seven*, McCreary got his break composing for the sci-fi series *Battlestar Galactica*. Since then, he’s done numerous films, but none with this level of fan scrutiny. Was he nervous? “I was the harshest audience

you can imagine,” says McCreary. “[Jackson’s] films changed my life. I was in my 20s when they came out, and [they] made me feel like a kid again. So whatever the expectations of the millions of fans around the world, my expectations are higher.”

McCreary was hired in 2021, and in six weeks, he wrote 15 themes which encapsulated Amazon’s vision of Middle-earth. He then scored his way through the series, composing its nine hours of music in eight months. Earlier this year, the score was recorded over four days with a 90-piece orchestra, 40-voice choir and numerous soloists.

The Rings of Power is based on the appendices to *Lord of the Rings* and set during the Second Age of Middle-earth – millennia before the events depicted in JRR Tolkien’s novels. So does McCreary see his orchestration as the distant ancestor to Shore’s score?

“It’s a continuous experience,” he replies. “For his music for the dwarves there’s a low vocal quality – they are in decline, a diaspora. But not in the Second Age. I wanted to use those same colours, but infuse them with a mechanical energy. So we get the sound of hammers hitting anvils.”

Númenor, the island home of the first race of men (later destroyed by a tidal wave), is a central location for the series. In order to represent the vanished home of an extinct race in a 70-year-old fantasy universe, McCreary looked to Mesopotamia and the Middle East. “You hear frame drums and a tanbur,” he explains. “I



Battle cry: Morfydd Clark as Elven commander Galadriel in *The Rings of Power*

But was he ever uncomfortable with the juxtaposition between such passionate creativity and the tech-bro extreme wealth involved?

“I understand the scepticism,” he says. “Amazon is a big company, but looking back to [the *Lord of the Rings* films], there were all these big players involved – New Line, Miramax. But someone said: ‘Let’s trust Peter Jackson [to] make the movies he wants to make.’ Amazon is doing the same thing.”

And what would Tolkien think of it? His son, Christopher, was famously grouchy about Jackson’s adaptations, though the Tolkien estate has given qualified blessing to Amazon’s series. (The \$250 million sweetener can’t have hurt.) “I think he would have loved that his mythology is being expanded upon and retold,” says McCreary. “He wrote a mythology, not the Bible. And what is a mythology? It’s a story which is retold and retold, reimagined for each new generation.”

He continues: “I understand if some fans don’t want a part of it. But I’d approach it with an open heart and mind. When I first saw Jackson’s films, I was truly transported. I left my body and went to another world. That’s all I can hope for with *The Rings of Power*.”

‘The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power’ is streaming on Amazon Prime Video now

want viewers to move from our series to Jackson’s films and notice the absence. I find it poetic that there’s a whole sound you don’t hear.”

The series has a much greater diversity of actors than the film – was there a conscious push for a similar musical diversity? Or, conversely, was

he worried about being accused of “cultural appropriation”?

McCreary reflects: “I’m definitely widening the palette away from a purely European sound. But I used folk music from around the world because they had a cultural heritage which I found useful.”

The Rings of Power also took the dialects very seriously. “The choir was singing in five Tolkien languages – two Elvish languages, Dwarvish, Black Speech and Númenórean,” recalls McCreary. “There were pronunciation guides, and experts who pronounced each syllable for each cue.”

other biopics feel small. Yet Ben Kingsley brings intimate humanity to it: his Gandhi is a man, not merely an icon.

23. KENNETH WILLIAMS: FANTABULOSA! (*Andy De Emmony, 2006*) Before he was Tony Blair, David Frost or Brian Clough, Michael Sheen was fabulously mannered as Kenneth Williams. Based on the comic's diaries, his turn was a prim, fussy delight.

22. CHAMPIONS (*John Irvin, 1984*) John Hurt is the British jockey Bob Champion, who was given six months to live when diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1979. He overcame it to win the Grand National, and is still alive today.

21. MARGARET THATCHER: THE LONG WALK TO FINCHLEY (*Niall MacCormick, 2008*) Many Iron Ladies have clanked onto our screens, most recently Gillian Anderson in *The Crown*. Few, though, have the wit of Andrea Riseborough as the ambitious young research-chemist.

20. STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON (*F Gary Gray, 2015*) Streetwise realism was the watchword for this account of the rise and fall of NWA. Ice Cube was played by his son, O'Shea Jackson Jr, ensuring it hit with attitude.

19. MAN ON THE MOON (*Miloš Forman, 1999*) No one was better placed to evoke the rubbery charm of the comedian Andy Kaufman than Jim Carrey. In fact, Carrey's method went so far that he claimed to believe he had become Kaufman.

18. LINCOLN (*Steven Spielberg, 2012*) Spielberg and Tony Kushner gave Daniel Day-Lewis everything he needed to create a Lincoln for the ages. It's about the legal battles he relentlessly fought to ensure abolition; the rhetoric alone makes our seats rumble.

17. EDVARD MUNCH (*Peter Watkins, 1974*) Covering 30 years in the life of Norway's famed Expressionist painter, this is one of the most minutely persuasive docudramas ever made. Ingmar Bergman, no less, called it "a work of genius".

16. CONTROL (*Anton Corbijn, 2007*) Filmed in icy-cool monochrome, Corbijn's debut is a fittingly jagged tribute to the life of Ian Curtis, detailing the post-punk scene as well as Curtis's struggles to corral his epilepsy and addictions.

15. ALI (*Michael Mann, 2001*) In this, the greatest film about The Greatest, Michael Mann captures the raw magnetism of Cassius Clay. Will Smith essayed Ali's cocksure self-belief and gawky earnestness – and delivered a charm haymaker.

14. ED WOOD (*Tim Burton, 1994*) Burton's hero, the no-budget auteur Edward D Wood Jr, made the worst schlock of his day, but did it with love in this beautifully fond homage that



Robert De Niro as Jake LaMotta in *Raging Bull*, main. Left, Angela Bassett as Tina Turner in *What's Love Got to Do With It?*; Kirsten Dunst as Marie Antoinette; Andrea Riseborough as a young Margaret Thatcher

French one – a ravishing, contemplative picture. Jacques Dutronc plays the artist in a non-sensationalistic study that even cuts out the ear bit.

8. BACKBEAT (*Iain Softley, 1994*) Just before the Beatles exploded, their bass guitarist Stuart Sutcliffe parted ways to become a painter and died aged just 21. This underrated gem is about friendship, torment and youthful creativity snuffed out.

7. THE LAST EMPEROR (*Bernardo Bertolucci, 1988*) This sumptuous life of Puyi, who went from the final ruler of imperial China to a Communist re-education camp, maps the country's zigzag progress in the early 20th century.



6. MALCOLM X (*Spike Lee, 1992*) This epic peak of Spike Lee's imperial phase told the civil rights leader's whole life story, from Michigan upbringing to his murder. A blistering Denzel Washington somehow lost that Oscar to Al Pacino's "hoo-aaa"s in *Scent of a Woman*.

5. THE ELEPHANT MAN (*David Lynch, 1980*) No one crafts biography quite like Lynch, who made this masterpiece about the Victorian circus attraction John Merrick (John Hurt) and the surgeon (Anthony Hopkins) who gave him a home. Mesmerisingly done in black-and-white, it pays off with a cosmic escape that's pure poetry.

4. SERPICO (*Sidney Lumet, 1973*) In 1971, NYPD officer Frank Serpico's testimonies about institutional corruption changed the way America was policed. Al Pacino's ferocious performance as the plain-clothes cop betrayed by his superiors indelibly cemented their impact – and public anger.

3. COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER (*Michael Apted, 1980*) Married from 15 to her abusive business manager, Loretta Lynn saw off her demons and also set them to song. This rousing rags-to-riches story netted a blazing Sissy Spacek a Best Actress Oscar and competed for Best Picture with two other films here.

2. LAWRENCE OF ARABIA (*David Lean, 1962*) T E Lawrence, as played in a career-defining turn by Peter O'Toole, is the most larger-than-life hero in Lean's whole canon. Biopic as spectacular myth-making, perhaps – but the film's dark, tormented second half takes the shine off those shimmering desert adventures.

1. RAGING BULL (*Martin Scorsese, 1980*) The daddy of all boxing biopics, because it digs so deeply into the self-destruction of Jake LaMotta and makes his ultimate opponent feel like himself. A magnificent Robert De Niro rarely dared look so ugly – on the inside and out.

Ana de Armas is extraordinary as Monroe in this provocative portrait of the actress

Venice Film Festival 2022

Blonde

Cert 18, 165 min

★★★★★

Dir Andrew Dominik
Starring Ana de Armas, Julianne Nicholson, Adrien Brody, Bobby Cannavale, Lily Fisher, Xavier Samuel, Evan Williams, Caspar Phillipson

By Robbie Collin

No screening at Venice this year has been the subject of more fevered speculation than Andrew Dominik's experimental Marilyn Monroe biopic. Back in January, this decade-in-the-making adaptation of Joyce Carol Oates's 2000 novel had been given an NC-17 certificate in the US – a rating reserved for the irredeemably graphic and ghoulish.

The casting of Cuban-American actress Ana de Armas had raised eyebrows, particularly when the trailer confirmed she would be using her natural accent. And punchy talk from Dominik in interviews – "if the audience doesn't like it, that's the f---ing audience's problem," he told one reporter – seemed only to confirm viewers were in for a pummelling.

So when rumours spread on the Lido earlier this week that the film contained not one but two shots in which the camera peers directly out of Monroe's birth canal, no one was especially taken aback.

But Dominik, the Australian director of *Killing Them Softly* and *The Assassination of Jesse James*, is no idle provocateur, and the shots in question – during two gruelling abortion scenes – feed into the film's central idea of Monroe as a vessel to be filled up or scraped out as her audience demanded.

Blonde isn't like *Elvis*, the gaudy Baz Luhrmann jukebox biopic from earlier this year which irked purists with its period-mixing liberty-taking. Perhaps it's closest in form to *I'm Not There*, Todd Haynes's 2007 Bob Dylan film, which offered six vying perspectives on its famously elusive subject. *Blonde* takes a similar approach, smashing Monroe's life story into fragments, each one cold and sparkling, and jagged enough to draw blood.

The young Norma Jeane is played by 12-year-old Lily Fisher, whom Dominik directs like a silent-era child star; she

cries with the heart-rending directness of Jackie Coogan in Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*. Norma's unstable mother (a spiky Julianne Nicholson) spins a handsome-prince fantasy about the girl's absent father.

Monroe's first, pre-fame marriage is glossed over entirely: when the film introduces de Armas, she is already a successful pin-up model being preyed on by Hollywood. An interview with a studio head ends in hurried, wordless rape. Observers at an audition, shot in nerve-racking, Bergmanesque close-up, mutter that her tearful performance was like "watching a mental patient".

Some will take issue with the depiction of Monroe as powerless and relentlessly exploited. Here, she is less a carefully constructed screen persona than a dissociative alter ego. But de Armas captures the tension between Monroe's flawless surface and fragmenting inner self with extraordinary psychological precision and real depth of feeling. Not only does she look the part, she understands that the part is a dismantling of the look. (Also, within minutes, the accent becomes a non-issue.)

Dominik uses the vast cache of photographs of Monroe to inspire scenes: by bringing them to life, it's as if he is releasing those fetishised images back into the wild. (Adrien Brody – terrific as Arthur Miller – looks as if he could have walked out of these.) Reconstructions of classic film moments feature too, but never for nostalgic pleasure. During the *Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend* sequence from *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, we see Marilyn looking at herself on the screen as if she's a stranger, while a scene from *Some Like It Hot* – de Armas is cut into the original footage alongside Tony Curtis – becomes a moment for her to darkly reflect on a recent pregnancy loss. Naturally, the skirt-flaring moment on the set of *The Seven Year Itch* appears, but Dominik shows the dress slowly and sinisterly mushrooming up and outwards over and over, like a looping clip of an atomic test.

Blonde is severe and serious-minded and I wonder how many Netflix viewers will soldier on to the end. In the cinema, though, it swallows you up like an uneasy dream, at once all too familiar and pricklingly unreal.

In UK cinemas from Sept 16, and on Netflix from Sept 28



Fair play: the Cuban-American star looks the part in Andrew Dominik's experimental biopic

AND 5 OF THE WORST

COPYING BEETHOVEN (*Agnieszka Holland, 2006*) Deaf Ludwig (Ed Harris) hires a young, pretty Viennese music student (Diane Kruger) as his amanuensis, in a fatuous, very hammy awards bid.

AMELIA (*Mira Nair, 2009*) This portrait of vanished aviatrix

Amelia Earhart sees Hilary Swank doing a wacky Katharine Hepburn impression, while Richard Gere is pure teak as her paramour.

BEYOND THE SEA (*Kevin Spacey, 2004*) Debut-directing and starring as a toupeed Bobby Darin, Kevin Spacey had little idea what to do with the

camera except let himself hog it. A dismal vanity project.

GRACE OF MONACO (*Olivier Dahan, 2014*) Laughed out of town when it opened that year's Cannes film festival, this Harvey Weinstein production was a professional low point for Nicole Kidman and all involved.

J EDGAR (*Clint Eastwood, 2011*) Hoover? Damn! Starring Leonardo DiCaprio as the man himself, and Armie Hammer as his protégé, Eastwood's chronicle of the life of the FBI's founder is so plodding, bizarre and at times unintentionally side-splitting you may wonder if you didn't see it but in fact hallucinated it.

'Are You Being Served?' at 50 – the hit sitcom that almost never was

The slapstick show might never have aired – but then tragedy struck at the 1972 Olympics. *By Tom Nicholson*

Jeremy Lloyd stared again at the note he'd written to himself and stuck on the mirror: "Cheer up, it's going to be all right." It didn't feel like it was going to be all right. It was 1970, and he was on his own in a friend's house off Kensington High Street, which was bare except for a couple of beds and a bean bag. Six months before, he'd been a Hollywood player. Now his father had just died, his marriage to Joanna Lumley had fallen apart, and he'd run out of money.

But his luck was about to change. On September 8, 1972, the doors of Grace Brothers department store opened for the first time in the pilot episode of Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft's sitcom *Are You Being Served?*, which has turned 50. And though our abiding memory may be of Mrs Slocombe's pussy and Mr Humphries' catchphrase, "I'm free!", its birth was more fraught than its pantomime feel would suggest.

The inspiration came partly from Lloyd's experience at Simpsons of Piccadilly department store as a suit salesman. Later on, he made a new career for himself in comedy by

dashing together bits of a film script about the Loch Ness Monster and ended up writing for the US sketch show *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*.

While living in Los Angeles, he became a fixture of Hollywood's party scene and got friendly with Roman Polanski and Sharon Tate. One Friday in 1969, Tate called to ask Lloyd over to lunch the following day, but after a late night at a nightclub, he slept in.

"I woke up well past midday on the Saturday and forgot about her invitation," he recalled later. That evening, he learned that everyone at the house for that lunch had been murdered by members of the Manson Family. "It was a terrible shock to think that such a thing could happen," he later wrote. "I shudder even today when I think about it."

Then came the trauma of his father's death. One night in 1970, his dad had fallen out of bed and landed, still asleep, in front of the fire. Lloyd, who had had a remote relationship with his father, visited him in hospital and the meeting proved emotional. His father died the next day.



Lloyd was distraught. "I remember I cried a lot for a long time," he wrote. "I didn't feel like I could work, I didn't feel I could do anything. I was also broke."

That same summer he met Lumley during a break in London from writing for *Laugh-In*. They married in a quick space of time but by autumn, they had split up. They still remained friends, though, and Lumley encouraged a despondent Lloyd to try and turn his experiences at Simpsons into a sitcom script. So he delved into the petty

rivalries, outsized characters and strict class hierarchy of the department store at the time, put together an outline and sent a copy to writer David Croft.

Already known for *Dad's Army*, Croft championed Lloyd's script to Bill Cotton, the BBC's then head of light entertainment, and Croft and Lloyd put together a pilot for the "Comedy Playhouse" strand.

But the pilot stayed on the shelf – there seemed little enthusiasm for it. It might never have made it to air if it were not for the tragedy at the Olympic

Talking shop: series three of Lloyd's hugely popular department-store comedy

Games in Munich. On September 5, 1972, Palestinian terrorists broke into the Olympic Village and took members of the Israeli Olympic team hostage. A bungled operation by West German police ended in the deaths of 11 Israeli athletes and coaches.

The Games were suspended for a day and a half. With no sport, the BBC suddenly had huge holes in its schedules and very little time to find

anything to fill them. *Are You Being Served?* got its chance, and the reaction was good. But still, Cotton wasn't hugely keen.

But Croft persuaded Cotton that *Are You Being Served?* was cheap and could be ready in six weeks. "OK," Croft recalled Cotton as saying, "but do we have to have the poo?" Croft insisted that Mr Humphries, a salesman who had only a couple of lines in the pilot, wasn't actually gay at all – he was "a mother's boy and he hasn't made up his mind yet". Cotton relented, but told Croft to "watch it".

Even then, the cast and crew felt the corporation was a little cold on *Are You Being Served?* "The general feeling was that the show was a bit common and not quite the sort of thing the BBC should be doing," Croft wrote.

But *Are You Being Served?* and Inman's Mr Humphries in particular were so popular that it made no difference. Inman even recorded a kitsch single called *Are You Being Served, Sir?* in 1975 which made the top 40.

Both Inman and Mollie Sugden attempted to break away from Mr Humphries and Mrs Slocombe with their own series. Sugden's *Come Back Mrs Noah* (about a housewife who accidentally ends up in space) is generally cited as one of the worst sitcoms ever made. Both Inman and Sugden came back to Grace Brothers.

By the time *Are You Being Served?* finished 1985 it had lost its lustre. "Plots were getting far-fetched or else were thinly disguised reshapes of previous shows," Croft admitted.

But *Are You Being Served?* had already made good on that note on Lloyd's mirror. Cheer up, it's going to be all right.

Main channels

BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
<p>6.00 am Breakfast (S) 9.00 Sunday with Laura Kuennsberg (S) 9.55 BBC News Special (S) 11.30 HM The King: The National Proclamations (S) 12.30 pm BBC News Special (S) 4.25 Songs of Praise (S) 5.00 News (S) 5.50 Regional News; Weather (S) 6.00 Countryfile – Queen & Country Balmoral (S)</p>  <p>The Capture</p>	<p>6.05 am Gardeners' World (R) (S) 7.05 Countryfile (R) (S) 8.00 Beechgrove (R) (S) 8.30 Weatherman Walking (R) (S) 9.00 Coast (AD) (R) (S) 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) 11.30 Great North Run. Further live coverage of the world's biggest half-marathon (S) 12.15 pm Super League Playoff Highlights (S) 1.15 The Hotel People (AD) (R) (S) 2.15 Nadiya's Everyday Baking (AD) (R) (S) 2.50 Bargain Hunt (R) (S) 3.50 Escape to the Country (R) (S) 4.50 The North York Moors: A Wild Year (R) (S) 5.00 Great North Run Highlights (S) 5.15 Flog It! (R) (S) 6.00 Golf: PGA Championship (S)</p>  <p>Simon Reeve's South America</p>	<p>6.00 am The Queen Remembered (R) (S) 6.45 Our Queen: The People's Stories (R) (S) 7.40 The Queen in Her Own Words (R) (S) 8.35 Queen and Country (R) (S) 9.30 Good Morning Britain (S) 10.25 Queen Elizabeth II (R) (S) 11.30 News (S) 1.30 pm News (S) 2.00 News (S) 4.30 FILM: The Age of Elizabeth Narrated by Julie Etchingham (S) 5.30 News (S) 6.25 Regional News; Weather (S) 6.35 Emmerdale (AD) (S)</p>  <p>Ridley</p>	<p>6.00 am The King of Queens (AD) (R) (S) 6.25 The King of Queens (AD) (R) (S) 6.45 The King of Queens (AD) (R) (S) 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD) (R) (S) 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD) (R) (S) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD) (R) (S) 8.25 The Simpsons (AD) (R) (S) 9.25 FILM: A Dog's Purpose (2017) Comedy drama starring Dennis Quaid (S) 11.20 A Place in the Sun 12.25 pm Jamie's One-Pan Wonders (AD) (R) (S) 12.55 The Simpsons (AD) (R) (S) 1.35 The Simpsons (AD) (R) (S) 1.50 The Simpsons (AD) (R) (S) 2.20 FILM: Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009) Fantasy comedy sequel with Ben Stiller (S) 4.30 Escape to the Chateau (S) 5.30 Channel 4 News (S) 6.30 Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Highlights (S)</p>  <p>Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins</p>	<p>6.00 am Milkshake! 10.00 The Smurfs (R) (S) 10.15 SpongeBob SquarePants (R) (S) 10.25 Entertainment News on 5 (S) 10.30 NFL End Zone (S) 11.00 Friends (AD) (R) (S) 11.30 Friends (AD) (R) (S) 12.05 pm Friends (AD) (R) (S) 12.35 FILM: The Poseidon Adventure (1972) Disaster movie starring Gene Hackman (S) 3.10 FILM: Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977) Sci-fi drama starring Richard Dreyfuss (S) 5.55 5 News Weekend (S) 6.00 Happy Campers: The Caravan Park (R) (S)</p>  <p>Rich House, Poor House</p>
<p>7.00 Antiques Roadshow Special programmes following the death of Her Majesty The Queen (S)</p>	<p>7.00 Cricket: Today at the Test England v South Africa (S)</p>	<p>7.30 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make Gino D'Acampo heads to Procida off the coast of Naples (AD)</p>		<p>7.00 Billionaire Resorts: On Holiday with the Super Rich The Datal resort on the tropical Malaysian island of Langkawi (S)</p>
<p>8.00 Frozen Planet II New series. David Attenborough explores frozen regions around the world (AD) (S)</p>	<p>8.00 Stolen: Catching the Art Thieves New series. Accounts of Europe's most daring art heists (AD) (S)</p>	<p>8.00 Ridley The ex-detective tries to find the missing brother of a jazz singer (AD) (S)</p>		<p>8.00 Million Pound Motorhomes Jayne Whittaker shows off her unique motorhome business (S)</p>
<p>9.00 The Capture Carey thinks someone has got to Isaac when he backs out of their shared plan (AD) (S)</p>	<p>9.00 Simon Reeve's South America New series. The adventurer sets off on a journey through the continent (AD) (S)</p>	<p>9.55 News (S)</p>	<p>9.00 Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins The celebrity recruits face a series of trust exercises (AD) (S)</p>	<p>9.00 Rich House, Poor House A racehorse breeder swaps with a single mum who has four jobs. Last in the series (S)</p>
<p>10.00 News; Weather (S) 10.55 Regional News; Weather (S)</p>	<p>10.00 How To with John Wilson The filmmaker explores people's ability to remember things (AD) (S) 10.25 FILM: Colette (2018) Drama starring Keira Knightley (S) 12.10 am FILM: Out of Blue (2018) Drama starring Patricia Clarkson 1.55 Sign Zone: A Tribute to Her Majesty The Queen 3.10 - 6.30am This Is BBC Two</p>	<p>10.30 The Young Elizabeth How The Queen's early life shaped the woman and the monarch she became (R) (S) 11.25 The Queen's Green Planet 12.15- 6.00am The Queen Remembered</p>	<p>10.00 Gogglebox More recent TV shows are appraised (AD) (R) (S) 10.55 FILM: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) Fantasy adventure starring Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen (AD) (S) 2.00 am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 2.50 Couples Come Dine with Me 3.45 Hollyoaks Omnibus 5.45 - 6.10am Drawers Off</p>	<p>10.05 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun Cameras focus on Tracey and Mike, who run two bars (R) (S) 10.55 '80s Greatest Pop Videos: 1982 (R) 12.55 am Entertainment News on 5 1.00 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show 3.00 Entertainment News on 5 3.05 Britain's Favourite Cereal 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes 5.30 Peppa Pig 5.35 Paw Patrol 5.50 - 6.00am Fireman Sam</p>
<p>11.05 The Longest Reign: The Queen and Her People 12.05 - 6.00am News</p>				

Film choice



The Poseidon Adventure (1972)
Channel 5, 12.35pm ★★★★★

Long before *Titanic* crashed onto our screens came this highly entertaining watery disaster movie. A luxury passenger ship is flipped by a tidal wave, leaving a band of survivors battling their way towards the top of the ship, which remains above water. The reliable Gene Hackman – here a minister – leads the way, followed by Shelley Winters, among others, whose performance won a Golden Globe.



Night at the Museum 2 (2009)
Channel 4, 2.20pm ★★

Ben Stiller may have graduated from nightwatchman to businessman, but he still gets slapped by monkeys in this breezy sequel to the fantasy in which museum exhibits come to life after hours. It's Stiller to the rescue when his favourite items get shipped off to storage at the Smithsonian, where a mad pharaoh (Hank Azaria camping it up) plots to take over the world. There are some smashing throwaway gag.



Colette (2018)
BBC Two, 10.25pm ★★★★★

Wash Westmoreland's historical biopic sees Keira Knightley play Colette, a woman who marries rakish "literary entrepreneur", Willy (Dominic West). When he publishes one of her novels under his name to instant success, it lights a wildfire story of literary and sexual emancipation. The biographical details are bruisingly observed, and an excellent Knightley shoots daggers from cut-glass cheekbones.

Join us as we commemorate The Queen's extraordinary life and reign. Read Her Majesty's obituary and revisit the remarkable events that defined seven decades of devoted service, with our Royal experts.

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Freeview, satellite and cable

BBC Four	ITV3	ITV4	Sky Max	Sky Atlantic	Film4	Drama
<p>FV 9 FS 173 SKY 116 VIRGIN 107</p> <p>7.00 pm Being Beethoven 8.00 Proms 2022: Unmissable Moments 9.40 The Great Mountain Sheep Gather 11.20 Secrets of the Museum 12.20 am The Last Battle of the Vikings 2.20 - 3.20am Being Beethoven</p>	<p>FV 10 FS 115 SKY 119 VIRGIN 117</p> <p>11.20 am The Ruth Rendell Mysteries 12.25 pm The Ruth Rendell Mysteries 1.35 Agatha Christie's Poirot 2.45 Agatha Christie's Poirot 4.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot 6.15 Wycliffe 8.00 Long Lost Family 9.00 Joanna Lumley's Home Sweet Home – Travels in My Own Land 10.00 Endeavour 11.50 Agatha Christie's Poirot 1.55 am Agatha Christie's Poirot 3.05 - 5.45am Emmerdale Omnibus</p>	<p>FV 26 FS 117 SKY 120 VIRGIN 118</p> <p>10.45 am Cycling: Tour of Britain 1.55 Live. Coverage from the eighth and final stage 3.15 pm Made in Britain 3.50 Made in Britain 4.20 Made in Britain 4.50 FILM: Rooster Cogburn (1975) Western sequel starring John Wayne 7.00 Silverstone Classic 8.00 Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union Highlights 9.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Highlights 10.00 River Monsters 11.00 Rugby World Cup 7s 2022 1.35 am Minder 2.35 Unwind with ITV 3.00 - 6.00am Teleshopping</p>	<p>SKY 113 VIRGIN 122</p> <p>Noon NCIS: New Orleans 1.00 pm NCIS: New Orleans 2.00 NCIS: New Orleans 3.00 Grimm 4.00 Grimm 5.00 Grimm 6.00 Grimm 7.00 A League of Their Own 8.00 A Discovery of Witches 9.00 S.W.A.T. 10.00 NCIS: Los Angeles 11.00 An Idiot Abroad 2 12.00 SEAL Team 1.00 am The Blacklist 2.00 The Force: North-East 3.00 - 4.00am Brit Cops: War on Crime</p>	<p>SKY 108</p> <p>11.20 am Boardwalk Empire (1960, b/w) Comedy 12.25 pm Boardwalk Empire 1.30 The Sopranos 2.35 The Sopranos 3.40 The Sopranos 4.50 The Sopranos 5.55 The Sopranos 7.00 Babylon Berlin 8.00 Babylon Berlin 9.00 House of the Dragon 10.05 Landscapers 11.05 The Gilded Age 12.10 am I Hate Suzie 12.55 House of the Dragon 2.00 House of the Dragon 3.10 In Treatment 3.35 - 4.05am In Treatment</p>	<p>FV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428</p> <p>11.00 am Carry On Constable (1960, b/w) Comedy 12.45 pm Bee Movie (2007) Animated comedy 2.35 The Adventures of Tintin (2011) Animated adventure 4.45 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014) Fantasy adventure with Megan Fox 6.45 Film4 Interview Programmes: Talking Film 6.50 The Eagle (2011) Action adventure 9.00 Alita: Battle Angel (2019) Sci-fi adventure 11.25 Little Fockers (2010) Comedy sequel 1.20 - 3.35am I Origins (2014) Drama starring Michael Pitt</p>	<p>FV 20 FS 158 SKY 143 VIRGIN 130</p> <p>11.55 am Mansfield Park 1.05 pm Mansfield Park 2.15 Mansfield Park 3.25 Catherine Cookson's The Girl 6.40 Call the Midwife 8.00 Sister Boniface Mysteries 9.00 Rebus 10.35 The Last Detective 12.45 am Taggart 1.45 Taggart 2.50 - 4.00am Les Misérables</p>

Variations

<p>ITV2</p> <p>11.25am Take Me Out 12.55pm The Masked Dancer 2.25 FILM: Rio 2 (2014) Animated comedy sequel with the voice of Jesse Eisenberg 4.30 FILM: Smurfs: The Lost Village (2017) Animated adventure with the voice of Demi Lovato 6.15 FILM: Wonder Woman (2017) An Amazon princess leaves her isolated island during the First World War, aiming to bring the conflict to an end. Fantasy adventure starring Gal Gadot and Chris Pine 9.00 Family Guy 11.30 American Dad! 12.25am Iain Stirling's CelebAbility 1.10 Don't Hate the Playaz 1.55 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.20 World's Funniest Videos 2.55 Unwind with ITV 3.00-6.00am Teleshopping</p> <p>E4</p> <p>11.35am Married at First Sight UK 2.00pm The Big Bang Theory 4.55 Lego Masters Australia 6.15 Wipeout USA 7.15 FILM: Bride Wars (2009) Two lifelong best friends become bitter rivals when their weddings are scheduled to take place on the same day and at the same venue. Comedy starring Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway 9.00 Married at First Sight UK: Unveiled 10.00 Rick and Morty 11.05 The Inbetweeners 12.10am Derry Girls 1.15 Gogglebox 2.15</p>	<p>Naked Attraction 3.05-4.00am The Inbetweeners</p> <p>More4</p> <p>Noon Location, Location, Location 1.00pm Come Dine with Me 3.40 Four in a Bed 6.20 Come Dine with Me 9.00 I Survived 9/11 10.00 9/11: The Falling Man 11.35 Emergency Helicopter Medics 12.00 Mash 11.00 Live at the Apollo 12.00 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 1.00am QI XL 2.00 Have I Got 2021 News for You 10.00 Late Night Mash 11.00 Live at the Apollo 12.00 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 1.00am QI XL 2.00 Have I Got 2021 News for You 3.00-4.00am Live at the Apollo: Christmas Special</p> <p>Sky Sports Main Event</p> <p>11.00am Live Test: Cricket. England v South Africa. Live coverage of day four of the series-concluding Third Test, held at The Kia Oval 1.00pm Live Formula 1. The team present from the grid ahead of the Italian Grand Prix 1.55 Live Formula 1. The Italian Grand Prix (start-time 2.00pm). Live coverage of the 16th round of the season at Autodromo Nazionale di Monza 4.00 Live DP World Tour Golf. The BMW PGA Championship. Further live coverage of the fourth and final day of one of the tour's most prestigious events, held at Wentworth in Surrey 5.30 Live NFL. Miami Dolphins v New England Patriots (kick-off 6.00pm). Coverage of the week one fixture from Hard Rock Stadium 9.15 Live NFL. Minnesota Vikings v Green Bay Packers (kick-off 9.25pm). Coverage of the week one match at U.S. Bank Stadium 12.30am Live NBC's FNIA 1.15-4.30am Live NFL. Dallas Cowboys v Tampa Bay Buccaneers (kick-off 1.20am). Live coverage of the week one game at AT&T Stadium</p> <p>Sky Sports Premier League</p> <p>Noon Premier League Years 10.00pm Gary Neville's Soccerpod 12.00-4.00am Premier League Years</p> <p>BT Sport 1</p> <p>11.30am Live: Serie A. Atalanta v Cremonese (kick-off 11.30am). Coverage of the Italian top-flight encounter at Gewiss Stadium 1.30pm</p>	<p>Joe Cole Cast 2.00 Live Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union. Gloucester v Wasps (kick-off 3.00pm). Coverage of the top-flight match at Kingsholm 5.15 Live Rugby Tonight 6.00 Joe Cole Cast 6.30 Uefa Champions League Goals Reload 6.45 Uefa Europa League Goals Reload 7.00 Live: Golazzo Live 7.45 Live: Serie A. Juventus v Salernitana (kick-off 7.45pm) 10.00 Uefa Europa League & Conference League Magazine 11.00 Joe Cole Cast 11.30 Live: Hero CPL. Saint Lucia Kings v St Kitts & Nevis Patriots. Coverage of the T20 cricket match at Daren Sammy Cricket Ground in Gros Islet 3.45-4.00am Uefa Europa League Goals Reload</p> <p>Sky History</p> <p>Noon Pawn Stars 1.00pm Buried: Knights Templar and the Holy Grail 3.00 Storage Wars 5.00 Britain Stands Alone 6.00 Curse of Skinswalker Ranch 7.00 9/11: Four Flights 9.00 9/11: The Legacy 10.00 Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center 12.00 Alone: Polar Bear Island 1.30am Vintage Tech Hunters 2.00-6.00am Pawn Stars</p> <p>Sky Arts</p> <p>Noon Sky Arts Book Club 1.00pm Music Videos That Defined the 2000s 2.00 Video Killed the Radio Star 2.30</p>	<p>FILM: Les Misérables – The Staged Concert (2019) A stage recording of the musical based on Victor Hugo's novel 5.25 Clint Eastwood: A Life in Film 6.45 Live from the Artists Den 8.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 9.00 FILM: I Am Alfred Hitchcock (2021) Interviews and archival footage weave together to tell the story of the Master of Suspense, one of the most influential and studied filmmakers in the history of cinema 10.45 Discovering: David Bowie 11.45 The Directors 12.45am Classic Albums 2.00-4.00am Buddy Guy: The Blues Chase the Blues Away</p> <p>Sky Cinema Premiere</p> <p>24 hours, including at: 11.45am FILM: Nurse Edith Cavell (1939, b/w) First World War biopic starring Anna Neagle 1.45pm Go Go with Matt Monro 2.20 FILM: Forever and a Day (1943, b/w) Epic drama starring Anna Neagle 4.30 British Rails Are Long and Fast 5.00 The Footage Detectives 6.00 The Saint 7.00 FILM: The Browning Version (1951, b/w) A lonely schoolmaster faces the realisation that his marriage and career have been failures. Drama starring Michael Redgrave 8.50 Look at Life 9.00 The Onedin Line 10.00 FILM: Fraulein (1958) A woman in Nazi Germany helps an American POW to escape, and faces a series of struggles after the war is over. Romantic drama starring Dana Wynter</p>	<p>Jessica Chastain 12.05am Belfast (2021) Drama starring Jamie Dornan 2.05-4.15am Last Looks (2021) Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam</p> <p>PBS America</p> <p>10.55am Mission Control: The Unsung Heroes of Apollo 1.00pm Secrets, Lies and Atomic Spies 2.10 The Vietnam War 10.15 Pelosi's Power 12.00 Secrets, Lies and Atomic Spies 1.15am Beautiful Serengeti 2.00-6.00am Teleshopping</p> <p>Talking Pictures TV</p> <p>24 hours, including at: 11.45am FILM: Nurse Edith Cavell (1939, b/w) First World War biopic starring Anna Neagle 1.45pm Go Go with Matt Monro 2.20 FILM: Forever and a Day (1943, b/w) Epic drama starring Anna Neagle 4.30 British Rails Are Long and Fast 5.00 The Footage Detectives 6.00 The Saint 7.00 FILM: The Browning Version (1951, b/w) A lonely schoolmaster faces the realisation that his marriage and career have been failures. Drama starring Michael Redgrave 8.50 Look at Life 9.00 The Onedin Line 10.00 FILM: Fraulein (1958) A woman in Nazi Germany helps an American POW to escape, and faces a series of struggles after the war is over. Romantic drama starring Dana Wynter</p>	<p>and Mel Ferrer 11.45 The Heritage Chart Show with Mike Read 12.50am FILM: Goodbye, Columbus (1969) Comedy starring Ali MacGraw 2.55-4.45am FILM: Tickle Me (1965) Comedy starring Elvis Presley, Julie Adams and Jocelyn Lane</p> <p>GOLD</p> <p>11.40am Only Fools and Horses 4.30pm Death on the Tyne 6.30 Only Fools and Horses 8.20 Dad's Army 9.00 Billy Connolly Does... 10.00 Inside No 9 10.40 The Royle Family 11.20 Ghosts 12.35am Peep Show 1.45 Roger & Val Have Just Got In 3.00-4.00am Billy Connolly Does...</p> <p>Yesterday</p> <p>Noon Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics 4.00pm Bangers and Cash 8.00 'Allo! 'Allo! 10.05 Abandoned Engineering 11.05 Bangers and Cash 1.05am Great Continental Railway Journeys 3.00-6.00am Teleshopping</p> <p>Discovery</p> <p>Noon Mysteries at the Museum 6.00pm Undercover Billionaire 7.00 Lone Star Law 8.00 Cold Blooded Peruvian Predator: Expedition Mungo 9.00 Mysteries of the Deep 10.00 Deafliest Catch 11.00 Wheeler Dealers 12.00-4.00am 100 Days Wild</p>
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Northern Ireland

BBC One: No variations
BBC Two: **4.00pm** Paula McIntyre's Hamely Kitchen **4.30 - 4.50pm** Strawbridge Over the Drawbridge **UTV:** **7.30 - 8.00pm** Mahon's Way

Scotland

BBC One: **11.35 - 12.05am** SportsScene: Premiership Highlights **12.20am** The Women's Football Show **1.15 - 6.00am** BBC News
BBC Scotland: **7.30pm** The Great Food Guys **8.00** Queen Elizabeth II – Scotland Remembers **8.30** Born to Be Wild **9.00** In Search of Sir Walter Scott **10.00** Martin Compton's Scottish Fling **10.30** Stock Car Superstars **11.00** Music Vault **11.45** Close
STV: **7.30 - 8.00pm** Sean's Scotland

Wales

BBC One: **4.05 - 4.25pm** Our Lives: Hell's Belles **5.05 - 5.50pm** Wales' Home of the Year
BBC Two: **2.45 - 3.00pm** The Best Dishes Ever **4.00** Escape to the Country **5.00** Garden Rescue **5.30 - 6.00pm** Our Lives: Hell's Belles
ITV Wales: **7.30 - 8.00pm** The Mart

ITV Regions

No variations

S4C

6.00am Cyw **8.50** Penblwyddi Cyw **9.00** Garddio a Mwy **9.30** Y Fets **10.30** Newyddion S4C **12.30pm** Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd **2022** **1.00** Rygbi Pawb **1.45** Gwesty Adunad **2.45** Newyddion S4C: Marwolaeth y Frenhines **4.30** Lorient **2022** **5.30** Cefn Gwlad **6.05** Pobol y Cwm Omnibws **7.10** Newyddion a Chwaraeon **7.30** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol **8.00** Prosiect Pm Mil **9.00** Pan Ddaeth y Frenhines i Gymru **9.45** Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd **2022** **10.15** Y Babeli Llen a Mwy **11.15 - 11.50pm** Codi Pac

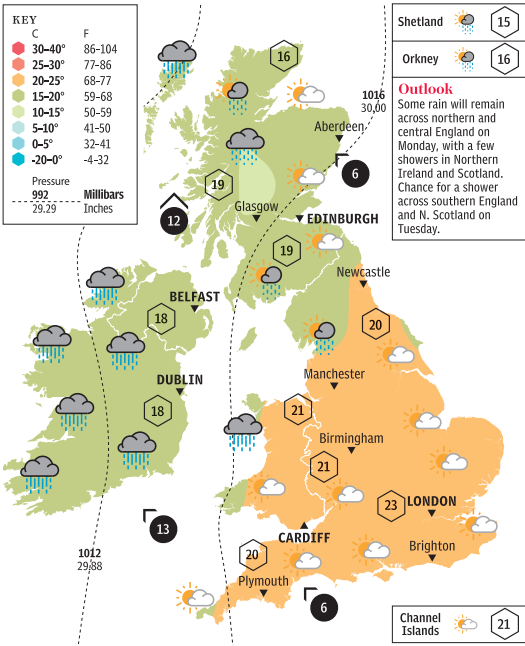
Weather & Crosswords

Forecast

General situation

Rainy spells will move from west to east across Northern Ireland and western Scotland today. There can also be a few showers across northwest England this afternoon. The rest of the U.K. will be dry.

- ◆ **London, Cent S** England, Channel Is, SW England, E England, SE England, E Anglia, Midlands: Dry with sunny breaks during the morning; misty spells early along the east coast. A moderate NW wind. Max 67-73F (21-23C). A few showers in the north. Min 57-61F (14-16C).
- ◆ **NW England, Lake Dist, IoM, Cent N** England, NE England: A few showers mainly in the west this afternoon, becoming rain overnight. A gentle S wind. Max 57-70F (14-21C). Min 53-60F (12-15C).
- ◆ **Wales:** Afternoon rain along the coast, moving north overnight. A gentle S wind. Max 64-70F (17-21C). Min 55-62F (13-16C).
- ◆ **N Ireland:** Cloudy with periods of rain arriving in the afternoon. A moderate SE wind. Max 58-64F (14-18C). Min 52-61F (11-16C).
- ◆ **SW Scotland, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, W Isles, SE Scotland, NE Scotland, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetland:** Periods of rain approaching from west to east. A moderate S wind. Max 48-68F (9-20C). Rain late in the NW tonight. Min 49-67F (9-19C).



Four day forecast

Monday
[Weather icons: rain, sun, rain, sun, rain, sun]

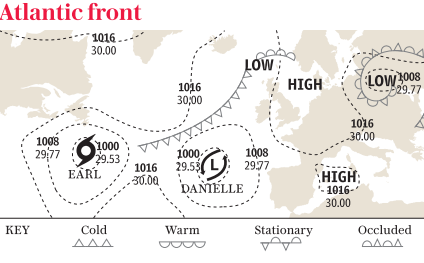
Tuesday
[Weather icons: sun, sun, sun, sun, sun, sun]

Wednesday
[Weather icons: sun, sun, sun, sun, sun, sun]

Thursday
[Weather icons: sun, sun, sun, sun, sun, sun]

British readings

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max/Min °C	Daytime weather	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max/Min °C	Daytime weather	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max/Min °C	Daytime weather	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max/Min °C	Daytime weather			
Aberdeen	4.8	0.00	17 11	p/cloudy	Chester	1.4	Trace	20 16	showers	Isles of Scilly	6.0*	0.00	19 15	p/cloudy	Ramsgate	2.7*	0.04	19 14	showers
Aberystwyth	1.8*	Trace	19 13	cloudy	Coventry	1.2*	0.00	19* 12*	cloudy	Jersey	1.3	0.01	19 16	cloudy	Rhyl	0.5*	0.02	19 15	showers
Antrim	5.8	0.00	19 8	p/cloudy	Doncaster	1.8*	0.25	19* 14*	rain	Keswick	0.0*	0.04	17 13	showers	Rugby	1.3*	0.08	21 13	showers
Aviemore	2.2*	0.00	17 6	cloudy	Dover	2.7*	0.42	21 13	rain	King's Gardens	2.6*	Trace	20* 13*	showers	Salisbury	4.1*	0.01	19 12	showers
Barnstaple	1.3*	0.04	19 14	showers	Dundee	4.5*	0.00	17 11	p/cloudy	Kew's Lynn	2.6*	0.12	19 13	rain	Scunthorpe	0.2*	0.04	18 13	showers
Barrow-in-Furns.	1.2*	Trace	20 13	showers	Eastbourne	1.8	0.08	20 13	showers	Leeds	0.0*	Trace	21* 14*	cloudy	Sheffield	0.1*	0.15*	18* 13*	rain
Basingstoke	0.7	0.06	19 12	showers	Edinburgh	2.3	Trace	17 11	cloudy	Leek	0.0*	0.03	17 12	showers	Shetland	0.9*	0.00	14 7	cloudy
Bedford	0.6*	0.06	20 13	showers	Epsom	3.4*	0.12	19 12	showers	Leominster	1.1	0.01	21 13	showers	Shrewsbury	1.0	0.00	21 12	cloudy
Belfast	6.0*	0.00	18* 12*	p/cloudy	Falmouth	2.5*	Trace	19 14	showers	Lincoln	1.1	0.06	19 14	showers	Skegness	1.5*	0.13	20 13	showers
Berwick	0.4	0.23	16 12	rain	Farnborough	3.2*	0.00	19* 12*	p/cloudy	Liverpool	1.4	Trace	20 16	showers	Southampton	6.1*	0.00	19* 12*	p/cloudy
Birmingham	1.2*	0.22	19 13	rain	Fort William	5.8	0.00	18 1	p/cloudy	London	1.7	0.28	21 12	rain	Southend-on-Sea	1.9	0.04	20 13	showers
Bodmin	2.9*	0.08	20 13	rain	Glasgow	6.3	Trace	18 9	p/cloudy	Manchester	1.0	0.27	20 12	rain	Stockport	1.0	0.27	20 12	rain
Bournemouth	3.0	0.28	20 11	rain	Great Malvern	2.4*	0.02	22 11	storms	Middlesbrough	0.0*	0.66	17 13	rain	Stornoway	8.2	0.00	18 8	sunny
Braintree	1.2*	Trace	20 13	showers	Grimsby	0.0*	0.26	19 16	rain	Newcastle	0.3*	0.62	16 13	rain	Swansea	4.0*	0.04	22 13	showers
Brecon	3.1*	0.01	19 11	showers	Guernsey	1.0*	Trace	19 16	cloudy	Newquay	5.1	Trace	18 16	p/cloudy	Swindon	2.0	0.00	19 13	cloudy
Brighthelm	0.0*	0.01	21 16	showers	Hereford	0.9*	0.05	20 13	showers	Nottingham	1.1	0.09	21 13	showers	Thirsk	0.0*	0.01	21 14	showers
Brighton	3.2*	Trace	19 13	showers	High Wycombe	2.6*	0.31	19 12	rain	Orkney	3.0	0.00	16 10	p/cloudy	Tiree	6.7	0.01	20 9	sunny
Bristol	3.0*	0.00	19* 13*	p/cloudy	Holyhead	3.8	0.02	19 14	showers	Oxford	1.6	0.01	21 12	showers	Weymouth	3.4*	0.13	19 16	showers
Cambridge	5.1	Trace	18 16	showers	Huddersfield	0.0*	0.62	17 13	rain	Perth	5.7*	0.00	19 4	p/cloudy	Whitehaven	4.0*	0.02	18 12	p/cloudy
Cardiff	3.9	0.03	20 13	showers	Ipswich	1.9	0.04	22 13	showers	Peterborough	0.2*	Trace	22 14	showers	Windermere	0.0*	0.00	17* 12*	cloudy
Carlisle	0.6*	0.02	17 13	showers	Isle of Man	6.3	0.00	18 13	p/cloudy	Plymouth	5.2*	0.00	21 13	p/cloudy	Worcester	2.7*	0.02	22 11	storms
Catterick	0.0	0.12	19 14	showers	Isle of Skye	6.5*	0.00	19* 11*	p/cloudy	Portsmouth*	3.2*	0.04*	19* 12*	showers	Yeovil	1.5	0.10	20 13	showers
Cheltenham	2.6*	Trace	20* 12*	showers	Isle of Wight	3.2*	0.14	19 14	p/cloudy	Prestrick	4.0	0.00	19 7	p/cloudy	York	0.0*	0.00	19* 14*	cloudy



Non today: Tropical Rainstorm Danielle will continue to move slowly to the east-southeast toward Portugal and Spain.

Last week's extremes

UK			Europe		
Warmest	Weybourne, Sun 26.7C (80.1F)	Catania (Italy), Fri 38.3C (100.9F)	Warmest	Weybourne, Sun 26.7C (80.1F)	Catania (Italy), Fri 38.3C (100.9F)
Coldest	Abbyene, Fri 1.1C (34.0F)	Yliviska (Finland), Wed -7.2C (19.0F)	Coldest	Abbyene, Fri 1.1C (34.0F)	Yliviska (Finland), Wed -7.2C (19.0F)
Wettest	Islay Port Ellen, Sun 1.79in.	Graz (Austria), Tues 7.16in.	Wettest	Islay Port Ellen, Sun 1.79in.	Graz (Austria), Tues 7.16in.

Facts & figures

Temperature (C)				Sun & moon (Greenwich)			
Last week				Sun rises			
18.5				0630			
20.7				1926			
20.7				1926			
18.1				Moon sets			
18.3				2010			
16.2				Moon sets			
15.4				0726			
10.6				Last quarter			
16.1				Sep 17			

Lighting up

Rainfall (ins)				Sun & moon (Greenwich)			
Last week				Sun rises			
2.42				0630			
2.12				1926			
2.12				1926			
0.41				Moon sets			
2.18				2010			
2.38				Moon sets			
16.61				0726			
4.05				Last quarter			
2.20				Sep 17			

Sunshine

Sunshine (hrs)				Sun & moon (Greenwich)			
Last week				Sun rises			
25.3				0630			
23.1				1926			
23.1				1926			
24.2				Moon sets			
24.0				2010			
146.9				Moon sets			
12.9				0726			
157.3				Last quarter			
108.0				Sep 17			

High water

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Sea forecast

S North Sea: A moderate to fresh northerly wind today. Seas will be smooth to slight. Visibility will be fair.

Dover Strait, English Channel: A moderate to fresh northerly wind today. Seas will be smooth to slight. Visibility will be fair.

St. George's Channel: A moderate to fresh northerly to northeasterly wind today. Seas will be slight to moderate. Visibility will generally be poor.

Irish Sea: A moderate southerly to southeasterly wind today. Seas will be slight to moderate. Visibility will generally be poor.

Prize Crossword 3,177 telegraph.co.uk/puzzles

Across

- 1 Bottle that's cold swigged by wife the same age as us (5,7)
- 9 Person going downhill after trip on the inside, more dangerous (7)
- 10 Horrible lot and he is unfriendly (7)
- 11 A pot slightly open (4)
- 12 Weapon hunt (5)
- 13 Threat of story? (4)
- 16 Fox trot not just where waltzer found? (7)
- 17 Person looking back feels differently having joined cricket side (7)
- 18 American politician initially in cult, accused (7)
- 21 Hit stuff (7)
- 23 Bird, the wren, regularly spotted (4)
- 24 Jockey in condition? (5)
- 25 Potato remains with first bit of mustard (4)
- 28 Tower where inmate festers, last of four locked up (7)
- 29 Bird or mouse? (7)
- 30 Go and live in a refuge (4,1,7)

Solution No 3,175

P	I	C	K	L	E	S	O	U	T	H	A	W
O	A	A	S	U	T	H	A	W				
S	T	R	I	N	G	S	T	O	N	E	A	G
T	D	D	G	O	A	N	E					
C	R	I	B	G	O	O	F	F	T	E	A	L
A	G	M	P	T	S	T						
R	E	A	L	I	T	C	H	E	C	K		
D	N	N	A	E	O	D	G					
S	O	R	D	L	E	A	E					
P	L	I	G	S	P	O	U	T	H	A	W	
A	A	F	A	E	O	N	S					
D	E	V	I	L	I	S	H					
E	E	A	T	L	S	A						
S	T	R	A	P	P	E	D					
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			29				
30							

A fine Telegraph fountain pen and notebook will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened from all those received.

To enter by email: Scan or photograph your filled-in solution and coupon and send to: prize.puzzles@telegraph.co.uk with Sunday Cryptic 3,177 in the subject field. To enter by post: Send to Sunday Cryptic 3,177 Telegraph Media Group, 111 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0DT. Closing date: 9am Wednesday, September 21. See telegraph.co.uk/prize-terms for terms and conditions.

Name

Address

Email address

For more information about how we use your data, please visit telegraph.co.uk/privacypolicy.

Last Week's Quick Solution

Across: 1 Parr, 3 Rots, 9 Ketch, (Parrot sketch) 10 Extremity, 11 Bombe, 12 Mercurial, 15 Length,